JUMP COMICS

きまぐれオレンジ☆ロード 1

まっ赤な変わら帽子！の巻

まつもと泉

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まつもと泉

1711

集英社

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JUMP COMICS

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vol.1

THE RED STRAW HAT

まつもと泉

オレンジ★ロード 1

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きまぐれ
オレンジロード

まっ赤な麦わら帽子！の巻

...TY-
ONE

EIGHTY-
TWO.

EIGHTY-
THREE.

TAP

IT'S HOT!

PHEW!

WHOOSH!

RUSTLE RUSTLE

OHH... THAT FEELS GOOD.

ABOUT...A HUNDRED STEPS!

UFO?! IT CAN'T BE...

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COME DOWN HERE!

"COME HERE!"

WHIRR!

A HAT? A STRAW HAT...?

NICE CATCH!

ARG!

THE WIND JUST TOOK IT AWAY.

S-SUCH A CUTE GIRL!

SFX: THUMP!

I THOUGHT IT HAD GONE ALL THE WAY TO THE BOTTOM.
I'M GLAD.

98,

99...

REALLY ...?

AFTER ALL, IT'S GOT 99 STEPS.

Y-YEAH ...

IT REALLY IS.

IT WOULD'VE BEEN A REAL HASSLE SINCE THIS STAIRWAY IS SO LONG...

100 !

THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT!

BUT... I COUNTED EXACTLY FROM THE BOTTOM.

YOU'RE KIDDING! THERE SHOULD ONLY BE 99!

O-O-OH NO. THERE WERE EXACTLY 100.

ISN'T IT YOU WHO MISCOUNTED?

SPEAK FOR YOURSELF!

MAYBE YOU COUNTED WRONG?

99!!

100!!

99!

IT'S 100!

AH-HA-HA!

TH-THEN HOW ABOUT THIS!

TAKE THE AVERAGE AND MAKE IT 99.5 STEPS!

EH?!

YOU'RE NOT FROM THIS TOWN!

I GUESS SO.

WHAT DOES IT MATTER, ANYWAY.

HOW DO YOU KNOW?

WHY...

EH... IS THAT SO?

YOU HAVE AN ACCENT!

I'M KASUGA KYOUSUKE.

OH!

SEE YA!

BYE!

I GOTTA GO NOW.

TRANSLATION NOTE: THE KANJI COMPOUND FOR KYOUSUKE = RESPECTFUL + MEDIATE/BE-IN-BETWEEN. FITTING, NO? ALSO, IN THESE SCRIPTS, NAMES IN THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION WILL REFLECT THE JAPANESE; NAMELY, FAMILY NAME FIRST, AND GIVEN NAME LAST.

IT'S YOURS!

EH?

THERE'S A REASON FOR MY MOVING INTO THIS TOWN TODAY...

HEY! YOUR HAT!

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, THIS TOWN...

...I'VE GOTTEN TO LIKE IT!

FOR SOME REASON,

IT LOOKS GOOD ON YOU

I'M HOME...

MAN-AMI

KYOU-SUKE

KASUGA TAKASH

EHR!

WATCH OUT, BIG BROTHER

SFX: WHOOSH!

BECAUSE THAT WAS SO SUDDEN YOU WERE PROBABLY SURPRISED, BUT...

OH NO...

GYAAA!

SFXS: BANG! THUD WHUMP CRAAASH

...THOUGH I'M EMBARRASSED TO ADMIT IT...

...TO BE HONEST, MY FAMILY...

...IS A FAMILY OF ESPERS!!

HE'S ALIVE, HE'S ALIVE

THUD

"THAT'S COOL!", YOU SAY?! NO WAY!

SPROING!

BUUUUT, I CAN'T MOVE THE DRESSER IF I DON'T USE THE POOOWER.

HEY, KURUMI! IT'S YOUR FAULT!

KURUMI!

AAAHH! I CAN'T STAND LIVING LIKE THIS ANY MORE!!

SFX: FLASH!

HUMANS AREN'T MOTORCYCLES, YOU KNOW!!

WE MOVED THIS TIME BECAUSE IN P.E. CLASS YOU RAN THE 100-METER DASH IN 3 SECONDS!

LISTEN!

I WANT TO BE A NORMAL BOY!!

EXACTLY.

LET'S NOT HAVE TO MOVE AGAIN BECAUSE PEOPLE ARE CALLING US WEIRD!

FLUT-TER!

MUST NEVER BE USED IN PUBLIC!!

JUST AS KYOUSUKE SAYS, THE POWER THAT THIS FAMILY POSSESSES,

...AND KURUMI!

MUNCH MUNCH

TWIN SISTERS MANAMI...

LET ME FORMALLY INTRODUCE YOU TO MY FAMILY... MY OLD MAN...

YOU KEEP SAYING THAT, DAD--EVEN THOUGH THIS CLEARLY ISN'T THE TIME TO BE JUST SITTING AROUND IN YOUR PAJAMAS READ-ING THE NEWS-PAPER.

AHEM

I'M BUSTED...

YEAH, YEAH ...

SCHOOL BEGINS TOMOR-ROW!

YOU WERE GOOFING OFF, WEREN'T YOU ...!!

COME ON, ONIICHAN. YOU HELP, TOO!

KURUMI, WHAT ARE YOU EAT-ING?!!

EVERYONE PLEASE, PLEASE, KEEP OUR ESP POWER A SECRET.

-KYOUSUKE

3-A

PLEASED TO MEET YOU!

UMM... YOUR DESK WILL BE... UH...

MUTTER MUTTER

MURMUR MURMUR

THIS IS KASUGA KYOUSUKE-KUN WHO HAS CHANGED SCHOOLS SEVEN TIMES.

高陵学園中等部

SIGN: KOURYOU SECONDARY SCHOOL SECTION

AH! NOT THERE.

UNDER THE CIRCUM-STANCES, I'M A TRANSFER VETERAN! OH, IS THIS MY SEAT?

HE DID WHAT?

AWESOME...

BUT IT'S CERTAINLY AMAZING-- SEVEN TIMES...

NO... SHE'S HERE. SHE'S HERE, BUT...

OHH, SHE'S ABSENT.

THAT'S AYUKAWA-KUN'S SEAT.

UH...

?

WELCOME.

HEH HEH HEH HEH ...

RATTLE!

SENSEI, HERE'S AN OPEN SEAT.

MAGAZINE TITLE: "RIBBON", "RIBBON" IS A MANGA MAGAZINE SPECIALIZING IN "SHOUJO" (GIRL'S) MANGA.

THANKS.

CHUCKLE!

IF THERE'S SOMETHING YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND ABOUT THIS, JUST ASK, AND I'LL PROBABLY HAVE THE ANSWER!

GLAD TO MEET YOU. I'M KOMATSU.

OH, THAT'S RIGHT.

NOTE: THE RAISED PINKIE FINGER SYMBOLIZES THE SECRET ART OF NAMPA (GIRL-CHASING)...

HOOKY?!

SHE'S "ESCAPED." IN OTHER WORDS, SHE'S PLAYING HOOKY!

AYUKAWA MADOKA!

OHH, IT'S THAT DELINQUENT,

UHH... THE PERSON THAT SITS THERE IS AYU...?

BUT WHY DID YOU HAVE TO TRANSFER SEVEN TIMES?

YEAH.

OH, LISTEN TO THE GUYS...

STARTING TOMORROW, I'LL FEEL IT'S WORTH COMING TO SCHOOL...

OUR CLASS WAS LUCKY TO GET THE BOTH OF YOU.

MOVING IS OUR HOBBY.

BA-DUMP!

WAH HA HA!

THAT'S NOT IT! THAT'S NOT IT! LISTEN!

WH-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

WRIGGLE!

IN THE LAST SCHOOL I RAN A HUNDRED METERS IN 3 SECONDS...

TA-DAH!

KURUMI!!

SFX: CRASH

CROQUETTE BREAD FOR ME!

わ

QUIT SHOVING!

M-MELON BREAD AND A POTATO SALAD BREAD, PLEEEASE.

WHERE ARE YOU TOUCH-ING!?

SFX. WAHHHH

NO. I BROUGHT A BENTO <BOX LUNCH>.

AREN'T YOU GOING TO BUY BREAD?

おぼ

いてて

YES! TODAY, I'M IN LUCK!! I GOT MY HANDS ON THE ILLUSIVE KATSU-SAND <PORK-CUTLET SANDWICH>...

CROWD: DUMMY. UGH! OUCH.

AND THERE ARE A LOT OF GIRLS...

ISN'T IT? IT'S BECAUSE THIS PLACE HAS A JUNIOR HIGH, A SENIOR HIGH, AND COLLEGE ALL IN ONE.

THIS IS A LIVELY SCHOOL.

CLING CLONG CLANG CLONG

OH, DON'T I LOOK LIKE ONE?

GOODY-GOODYS, HUH?

ALL THE STUDENTS HERE ARE GOODY-GOODYS!

THAT'S WHY...

OH!

LOOK! THE LITTLE GIRL WITH THE LONG HAIR. THAT GIRL!

MY KIND OF GIRL! CUUUUTE!!

J-JUST A SEC. HEY, TAKE A LOOK, KASUGA-KUN!

1-C

THERE! THERE!

EH?

SHE'S MY YOUNGER SISTER!

SLIP

KASUGA-KUN, YOU'RE SURPRISINGLY QUICK...! YOU PERVERT.

OH, THAT'S JUST KURUMI.

EH?! H-HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?

IS EVERYTHING OKAY WITH KURUMI? SHE BETTER NOT BE USING IT.

BIG BROTHER?

BIG BROTHER!

KURUMI, I GOT THE BOOKS...

IT'S ALL RIGHT! I'M WATCHING HER CLOSELY. JUST LEAVE IT TO ME.

HEY, MANAMI.

MATHEMATICS

JAPANESE LANGUAGE

PHYSICAL EDU.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

WAH!!

BIG BROTHER !!

B...
BIG...
BIG...

SFX: LEAP!

OH, HOW DO YOU DO!

AH, THERE'S BIG BROTHER.

WHO'S A BROTHER? WHO?!!

RIGHT, BROTHER?

I MEAN, I'M DELIGHTED! TO HAVE MADE FRIENDS WITH SOMEONE LIKE YOU, BROTHER... I MEAN... HA HA HA.

THIS GUY...

WHAT ARE YOUR NAMES? WHAT KIND OF FOOD DO YOU LIKE? YOUR BUST, WAIST AND HIP MEASUREMENTS? WHAT DO YOU USUALLY WEAR WHEN YOU GO TO BED?

I--I MEAN, I'M KOMATSU SEIJI OF CLASS 3-A.

WELL, LET'S BE LIKE BROTHERS AND BE ON GOOD TERMS FROM NOW ON.

SOMEHOW, I DON'T FEEL LIKE A STRANGER... WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE MY KATSU-SAND?

SEE YA...

KU...

WELL, LET'S GO HOME.

THE FIRST DAY AT OUR NEW SCHOOL IS OVER WITHOUT ANY TROUBLE.

G'BYE, MANAMI-CHAN! DON'T FORGET KOMATSU SEIJI.

WELL...

WHAT HAPPENED TO KURUMI?

EHHH?!

SHE WANTS TO JOIN A CLUB, SO SHE WENT TO LOOK AROUND.

A-ALONE?!

NOTE: KYOUSUKE MAKES A REFERENCE TO THE JAPANESE PROVERB, THE DUCK THAT COMES BEARING THE ONIONS (THAT WILL BE COOKED WITH IT TO MAKE DUCK SOUP). IF YOU ARE ANYONE BUT THE DUCK, THIS IS A GOOD THING. TO STRAP THAT DUCK ON TO THE BACK OF A MISSILE AND SEND IT HURTLING AWAY, THEREFORE, IS VERY BAD...>

T-TO LEAVE HER UNATTENDED AT SCHOOL IS LIKE HAVING THE DUCK THAT CARRIES ONIONS ON ITS BACK FLY AWAY ON AN ICBM!

SFX. VRROOOM

BUT THAT'S THE LAST I HEARD OF HER!

YEAH. SHE SAID SHE'D BE BACK SOON...

YOU'RE ASSUMING THE WORST!

LET'S FIND HER! WHEN LEFT ALONE SHE ALWAYS CAUSES PROBLEMS!

!

BUT WHAT IF THE TEACH COMES?

SWEET!

DON'T WORRY.

THAT'S KURUMI'S VOICE!!

KYAA!

SCRAM! SHOO! SHOO!

WHAT DO YOU WANT?!

YOU SHOUTED SO LOUDLY.

OHHH, YOU GAVE ME A HEART ATTACK.

Y-YOU'RE SMOKING CIGARETTES...!

YOU'RE A STUDENT HERE?

I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU AROUND.

SHOULDN'T SMOKE CIGARETTES.

J-JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS,

...SO YOU'RE A NEW STUDENT.

I STARTED HERE TODAY!

SFX: COUGH! COUGH!

IF YOU MESS WITH US...

IF YOU'RE NEW HERE, I'LL TEACH YOU SOME-THING.

STOP SINGING!

ARE YOU AN ELEMEN-TARY SCHOOL KID?!

YOOOU'RE BEING NAUGHTY, YOU'RE BEING NAUGHTY.

♪ ♪

ガラ

SFX. FLOP!

...YOU'LL BE IN FOR A FRIGHTENING EXPERIENCE.

MI...

KURU...

WH-WHAT ...?!

HIKARU, WE HAVE MORE GUESTS.

OH!

YOU'RE KIDDING! THERE SHOULD ONLY BE 99!

...THE HAT YESTERDAY.

BIG BRO-THER!

Y-YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GAVE ME...

YOU COME TO THIS SCHOOL...

SO...

NO...

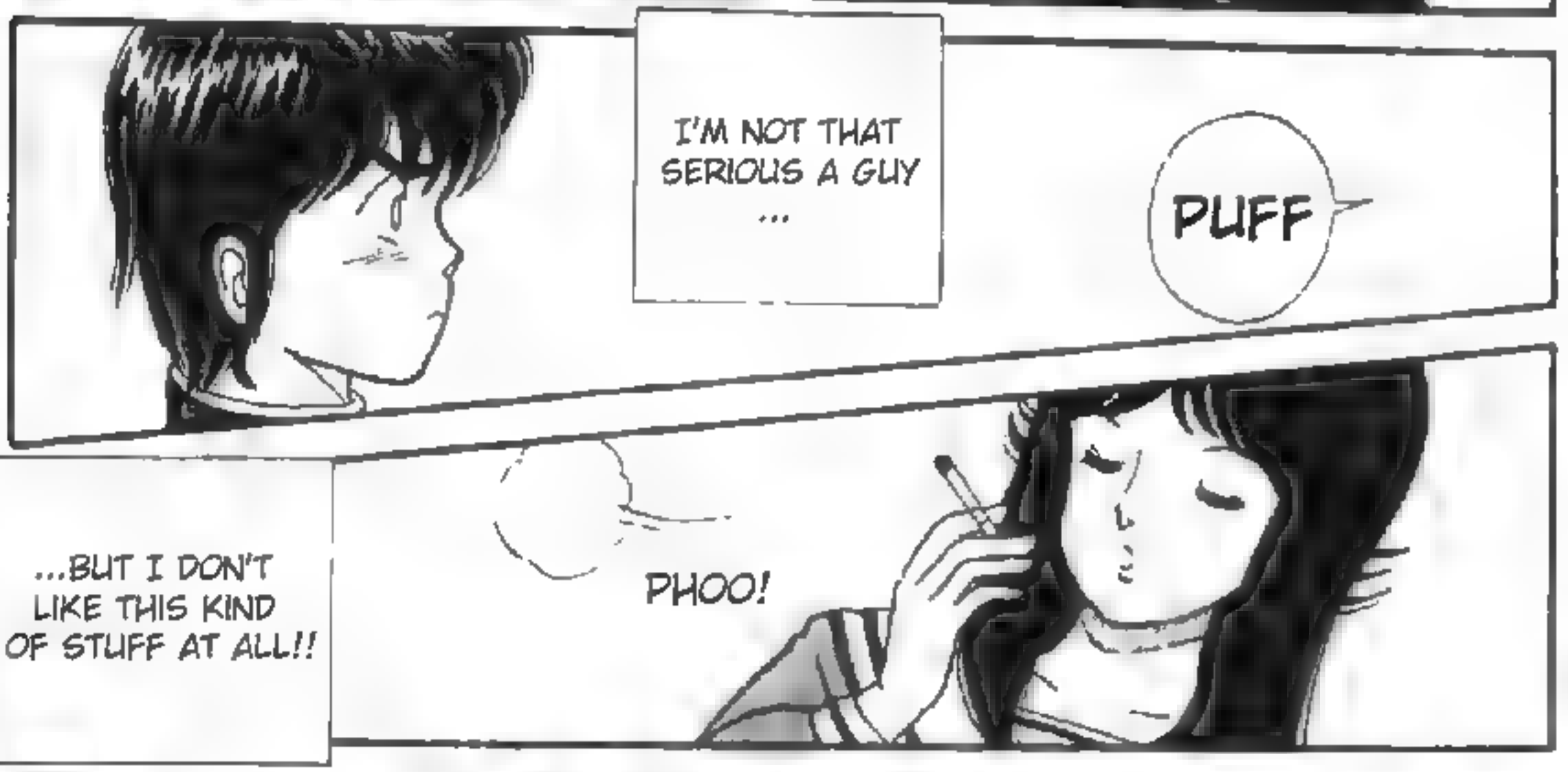
EH? WHAAAT? AYUKAWA-SAN, IS HE YOUR FRIEND?

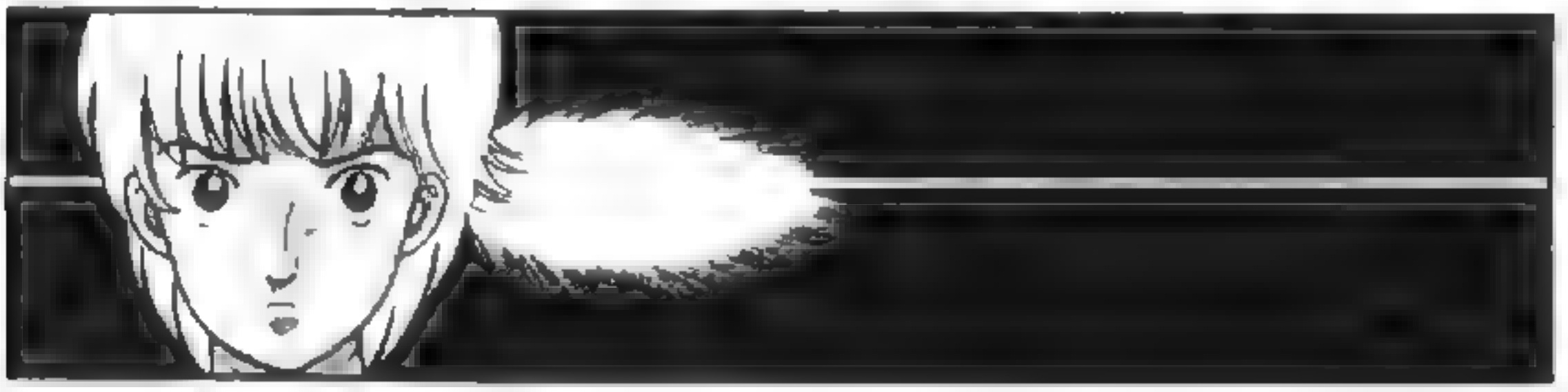
I WOULDN'T KNOW A GUY LIKE THIS!

...AYUKAWA?!

THUMP!
WHISH!

AYUKAWA... OH YEAH!
THAT'S AYUKAWA-KUN'S SEAT.
AYUKAWA MADOKA. THAT SEAT WAS HERS!!
OHH, IT'S THAT DELINQUENT, AYUKAWA MADOKA.


I'M NOT THAT SERIOUS A GUY ...
PUFF
PHOO!
...BUT I DON'T LIKE THIS KIND OF STUFF AT ALL!!



PUFF

PLINK!

HUH! IT WENT OUT AGAIN.

SWISHH!

YOU WON'T GIVE BIRTH TO HEALTHY BABIES!!

YOU SHOULDN'T USE IT IN A PLACE LIKE THIS!

GRIN!

YOU SHOULDN'T USE IT IN A PLACE LIKE THIS!

B-BIG BROTHER,

SHH!

ALLLL RIGHT.

WHAT?

WATCH ME HAVE ONE!

YOU JERK.

THAT SHOULD SETTLE IT!

やったね

SFX: AHHHH

BACK. I DID IT (REPEATED)

SFX: SLAP!

THAT'S NOT SOMETHING YOU SHOULD BE SAYING,

TO A LADY THAT YOU JUST MET, KID!

WELL, THAT GIRL...

BIG BROTHER WAS A KID?

K- KID?!

WHA...

WHAT KIND OF A GIRL IS SHE?!

OH, WAIT, MADOKA-SAAAN!

THE GIRL THAT GAVE ME THIS HAT...

IT WAS HER... WASN'T IT?!

PRICKLY PAIN

THE SHOOTING BLUES

Edited by ZileH, from #mangascans on Dalnet

THE POWER AT SCHOOL YESTERDAY!

I HEAR YOU USED,

KYOUSUKE!

URKKI

USE THE POWER + SOMEONE FINDS OUT = WE MOVE FOR THE 8TH TIME.

IF YOU MESS UP WE'LL BE MAKING THE MOVERS RICH AGAIN!

OUCH!

drop!

THAT IT WAS A GOOD THING TO PUT OUT YOUR CLASS-MATE'S CIGARETTE,

IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING,

BUT...

DAMN! WHO THE HELL TOLD ON ME FOR NO REASON?

I KNOW...

NEWSPAPER: THANKFUL NEWS GAZETTE. FROM LOTTERY.

mangaproject cjb net

...IN THAT CASE...

SFX. <MUNCH> <CHOMP>

NO-NO

NO-NO

MANAMI, WAS IT YOU WHO TOLD DAD ABOUT YES-TERDAY?

SLURP

KURUMI, YOU SHOULDN'T TELL LIES!

KYOUSUKE, YOU'RE THE OLDEST SO...

KURUMI!

THAT'S NOT FAIIIRR, DAD!

HEEYYYY, EVERYBODY, WE'LL BE LATE FOR SCHOOL!!

YOU LIED, DAD...!! YOU SAID YOU'D KEEP IT A SECRET ...

SFX: <FLUTTER/>

YOU SNITCH!

OUR HOUSE IS WAY TOO NOISY FOR SO DAMN EARLY IN THE MORNING...!

SHOOT! I'M REALLY LATE!

KABA KABA

SILENCE

SFX: <STEP STEP STEP>

DOESN'T SHE MIND BEING LATE?

WHAT'S WITH THAT GIRL?! JUST TAKING HER TIME...

A-AYUKAWA!!

I DON'T WANT TO GET SLAPPED AGAIN, SO I'LL IGNORE HER...!

SFX: <HURRY!>

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

EH!?!

HE HASN'T COME YET.

SMILE!

IF IT'S THE TEACH YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT,

I ALWAYS WALK DOWN THIS HALLWAY AT JUST THIS TIME.

SFX. <THUMP!>

AYUKAWA... SHE'S CUTE AFTER ALL. I-I SEE... I'M SURE SHE WASN'T IN A GOOD MOOD YESTERDAY.

STEP!

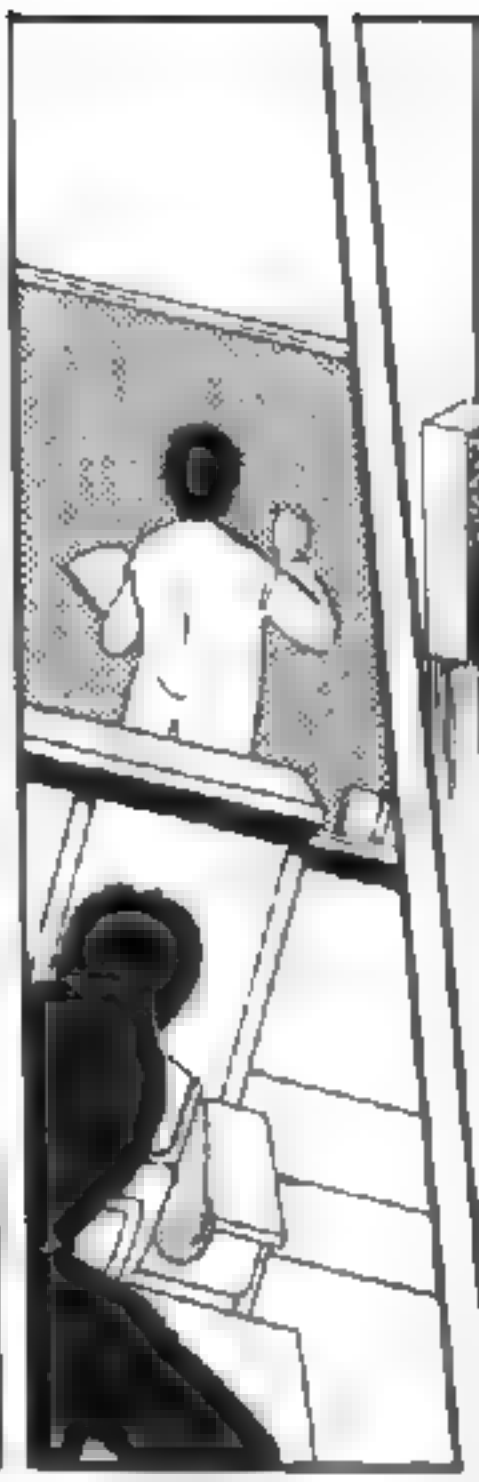
STEP!

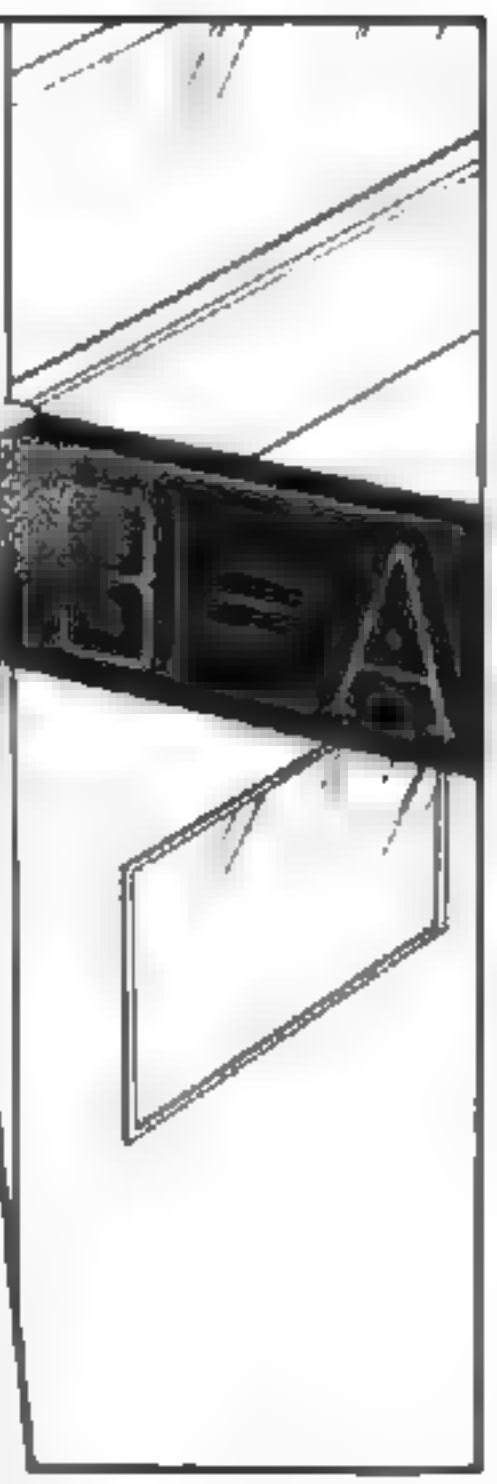
STEP!

SEE?!

THIRTY SECONDS FROM NOW HE'LL COME WALKING UP THOSE STAIRS.

R-REALLY?





SFX: <SATISFIED SMILE>

SMILE!

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON? WAS THAT SMILE A LITTLE WHILE AGO JUST AN ILLUSION?!

WHAT WERE YOU DOING, KASUGA?!

WHAT DO YOU ALL THINK? WHAT WHIMSICAL BEHAVIOR!

I'M IMITATING MIYAO SUSUMU.

RIGHT!

IS YOUR HEAD ALL RIGHT?

BOYS LOCKER ROOM

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO TODAY?

YOU SHOULD SPLIT INTO FOUR TEAMS AND PLAY BASKETBALL.

HEEEYYY! THE GIRLS ARE IN THE GYM, TOO!!

SFX. <OHHHHHH!?

PHWEET

KOMATSU, WHAT ARE YOU SCRIB-BLING?

SCRITCH! SCRITCH!

.....

THIS IS A SECRET NOTEBOOK.

YUUKO'S LEGS ARE FAT... 50 POINTS. MAYUMI'S PRETTY GLAMOROUS... 75 POINTS... AND...

OH!

YEP, THE GIRLS IN OUR CLASS AREN'T BAD AT ALL, HUH?!

NEXT, AYUKAWA-SAN!

clap clap

WE ARE NOT WORTHY!

SHE SURE IS SEXY, HMM?! 85 POINTS!

SFX: <THWOCK>

THAT'S SUGIMOTO FROM THE GYMNASTICS CLUB. SHE'S GOOD!

GULP!

WELL, LET'S SEE IF IT'S OUR TEAM'S TURN AT LAST.

WH-WHAT ABOUT AYUKAWA'S SCORE?

IT'S MY POLICY TO HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH DELINQUENTS. LET'S GO!

IT'S OUR GAME.

PAT

SQUEAK!

CAN'T BEAT YOU...!

YOU WERE WONDERFUL, SUGIMOTO-SAN.

THAT WAS NOTHING.

AMAZING ...

THWOCK!

SFX: <MURMUR!>

SHE'S TOO GOOD TO BE KEPT A DELINQUENT.

STUNNING. STUNNING! STUNNING!!

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

clap CLAP CLAP CLAP

VERY WELL DONE. NEXT...

しーん

STARE

UH...

STARE

FWIP

PLAY

SFX: <PHWEET!>

お！

ALLLL RIGHT, LET'S DO IT...!

THAT'S PROM-ISING.

WHUMP

LET'S SEE HOW WELL KASUGA-KUN PLAYS...!

SFX: OHHH.

...THAT...

OH, WAAAH...

...I SAID...

SNAP

EVEN THOUGH...

SWISH

HUFF HUFF

WHEEZE

...I'M ALWAYS RELYING ON THE POWER, SO I DON'T GET ENOUGH EXERCISE!

NOT ONLY CAN'T I SCORE, I CAN'T EVEN GET MY HANDS ON THE BALL... THIS IS HUMILIATING!

SFX: <OBSERVE>

PHWEET!

ONE MINUTE LEFT.

HOW LAME!!

3

5

!

KASUGA!

L-LOOKS FAR...!!

3

EH?! EH?! THE BASKET. THE BASKET!

SCAN

PLOP

GRIN!

GO-O-O! IF YOU MAKE IT, WE'LL COME FROM BEHIND!!

1

PEEK!

COMING FROM BEHIND WOULD LOOK COOL. SHOULD I USE...

NIKO

OOPS. OH.

WHISH!

A-AYUKAWA IS WATCHING...!

I MIGHT BE DISCOVERED... NO, IT'S OKAY! EVEN AN ORDINARY PERSON CAN PUT A BALL IN THE BASKET. NOBODY WILL KNOW!!

...THE POWER?

SFX: <WHOOSH>

IT'S ONLY NATURAL TO SHOOT A BASKET!

NERVOUS CHUCKLE!

IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT...

AH, BUT WAIT!

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

IT'S PITIFUL TO THINK I HAVE TO USE THE POWER TO MAKE THIS SHOT.

YEEARGHH!!

ALL RIGHT. I'VE MADE UP MY MIND!

WAH, IT'S THE BASKET !!

BUT, GEE, THAT WAS CLOSE... TOO BAD!

SHH!

SORRY...

WE LOST BECAUSE OF ME.

HA HA HA HA HAH!

WE'LL TELL YOU IF THERE'S ANYTHING.

MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID THAT.

shiver

WE DON'T REALLY CARE.

DON'T BE SO STUFFY.

THANKS, EVERY-ONE.

BY WAY OF APOLOGY, NEXT TIME THERE'S ANYTHING,

IT'S MY FAULT.

TELL ME AND I'LL DO WHAT-EVER IT IS.

I KNEW I SHOULD HAVE USED THE POWER...

...NOT THAT GOOD IN SPORTS.

KASUGA IS, WELL...

I THOUGHT HE WAS GOING TO MAKE IT.

HUH?!

HEH HEH...!

OKAY. I'M GOING TO SMOKE IN THE BACK OF THE GYM TODAY!

WHAT IS HE DOING HERE...?

SOMEHOW HE DOESN'T LOOK TOO GOOD...

THAT'S THE GUY WHO GOT SLAPPED BY MADOKA-SAN YESTERDAY...!

SHIT! IF I HAD USED THE POWER, MAKING A SHOT LIKE THIS...

I WAS TOO ASHAMED TO LOOK.

...WHAT KIND OF LOOK DID AYUKAWA HAVE WHEN I MISSED THE SHOT...?

...WOULD HAVE BEEN EASY!!

SFX: <VROOSH!>

WH-WHAT'S THIS...?! HE MADE A SHOT FROM THIS SIDE OF THE COURT...

HE'S ...

WHA ...

...COO-OO-OOL!!

SFX. <SW SH'>

PLOP

THE LIP SECRET

madoka

MACHUMOTO!

I LOVE YOU!

TEACHER!

HE'S FEEBLE-MINDED AND STUPID AS GAMERA BUT...

SFX: <CL NG!>

NOTE : GAMERA IS LIKE GODZILLA.

SFX: <JINGLE JANGLE JINGLE JANGLE>

チャーチャラーラララー ラララララ

BLINK

HEY. WHY DO THEY SAY THAT KISSES TASTE LIKE LEMONS?!

END

FOLLOWING "ELEVATOR GIRL STORY" AT THIS TIME...

SFX. <WHUMP!?

OH...

AH...

HAHAHAooo

HMMMM

ERR... AH... I... UH...

HAVE TO CLEAR AWAY THE KITCHEN...!

.....

RIGHT, MANAMI-CHAAAN?

NO MATTER HOW I LOOK AT IT, IT SEEMS UNLIKELY YOU HAVE THE EXPERIENCE, BIG BROTHER, SO EVEN IF I ASK YOU, YOU WOULDN'T KNOW.

HMM... CHOUSHUU VS. FUJINAMI, A NO-CONTEST AGAIN.

SOMETHING HAPPENED?

SHIT! WITH MY CHIEMI...

CRYING IS SO DISGRACEFUL, HATTA!

ENDURANCE WILL ENDURE THE FALLS, MEMORIES WILL BEAR THE DIVERGENCES, EVERYONE.

HEY! HEY!

MY FRIENDS, WE MUST ENDURE, WE CAN DO NOTHING ELSE BUT ENDURE!

YOU BASTAAAARD! YOU TRAITOR!!

"WAS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH IT?"

WAS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH IT?

I SAW IT...

DIDN'T YOU SEE THE "ELEVATOR GIRL STORY" KISS SCENE YESTERDAY?!

THE FACT IS THAT IT WAS DONE!!

...BUT ISN'T THAT ACTING?

THAT KISS SCENE WAS JUST ABOUT AS SERIOUS AS AN A-BOMB FALLING ON US!!

TO OUR HORI CHIEMI FAN CLUB,

SUCH OVER-REACTING...

NOISE

CLAMOR

I'M NOT GOING TO TALK TO THEM TODAY.

AS FOR THAT BASTARD KAZAMA...

HA HA HA.

I'VE NEVER SEEN AYUKAWA TALKING WITH OTHER CLASSMATES...

COME TO THINK OF IT...

THAT CAN'T BE TRUE...

IT'S TRUE I TELL YOU.

YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME?

I WONDER IF THE REASON NO ONE APPROACHES HER IS BECAUSE SHE IS REBELLIOUS ...

AND EVERYONE IS SCARED OF HER, OR BECAUSE SHE IS A CLASSROOM NUISANCE...

AT TIMES LIKE THESE AYUKAWA SEEMS SO LONELY.

...FROM THE FIRST TIME WE MET AT THOSE STEPS...

WELL... TO TELL THE TRUTH, I...

IF YOU LIKE YOU CAN LET ME LISTEN TO YOUR PROBLEMS, AYUKAWA...

YOU SEEM DEPRESSED ...

PAT

KYOUSUKE-SAN!

M-MADOKA!

IN LOVE WITH YOU...!

I FELL ...

SO THAT'S HOW IT WAS...!

SMACK!

C-CAN'T BE.

KASUGA! Y-YOU HAD THOSE TENDENCIES?!

YEAARGH!!

IT WAS FRIED LIVER WITH LEEKS, AND GYOUZA!

KOMATSU, WHAT DID YOU HAVE FOR LUNCH ...?!

TH-THAT WAS MY FIRST KISS...!!

BLEAUGH!!

I'M SURE THERE WAS A WATER FOUNTAIN AROUND THE CORNER.

WHAT THE HELL, I'M GOING!!

SCAN

I-I'VE GOT TO WASH OUT MY MOUTH!

SFX. <YAAAH!> <PHOOEY!>

NOBODY'S LOOKING.

SWISH

CLICK!

TAP! TAP!

STEP!

SFX: <CRAAASH>

.....

WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING!!

HEY BOZO!

WHA... WHAT'S THIS...?!

WHAT WAS THAT SOFT THING THAT TOUCHED MY LIPS JUST NOW FOR A MOMENT?!

OUCH

SFX. <THUMP!>

I-IT'S THE SAME FEELING I HAD WHEN I KISSED KOMATSU! NO, IT SEEMED TO FEEL BETTER.

AH! S-SORRY!!

HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN TO BE ON TOP OF ME?

AH!

I'M CERTAIN THIS IS THE GIRL THAT WAS WITH AYUKAWA THE DAY I TRANSFERRED HERE...!!

EH? WHAAAT? AYUKAWA-SAN, IS HE YOUR FRIEND?

TH-THIS IS THE GUY WHO MADE THAT AMAZING SHOT IN THE GYM...!!

SFX. <KAA!>

I-IS IT POSSIBLE THAT I JUST KISSED THIS GIRL?

WH-WHY AM I BLUSHING?

TAP TAP

U-UHH...

AHH!

CAUGHT BY THE WRONG GUY.

TH-THAT'S RIGHT. THIS IS A SCHOOL HALLWAY!!

WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING?!!

WELLLLL?

DA... DARRRLING ?!

UH... HA HA HA HA.

DAR- LING!

SEE YA,

STARE!

HEYYY!

ARG! OOTSUKA THE P.E. TEACHER!!

N-NO... THAT IS...

I'M VERY SORRY.

AH, SO IT WAS JUST A MISUNDER-STANDING, HMM...

AFTER SCHOOL ...

SIGN: FACULTY ROOM

HARASSING...? DON'T BE ABSURD.

YOU KNOW, I HAD HEARD FROM OOTSUKA-SENSEI THAT YOU WERE HARASS-ING A GIRL IN A HALLWAY IN BROAD DAYLIGHT, SO...

KASUGA-KUN, YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO A THING LIKE THAT!

I WONDER WHAT'S MEANT BY THAT?

SCHOOL MOTTO: PURENESS IS UNDOUBTEDLY THE WAY TO EMPLOYMENT

EVEN I WAS SURPRISED, TOO.

I-I HAVE NO REASON TO DO A THING LIKE THAT.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT, AYUKAWA-KUN?

.....

KASUGA...

THAT GIRL IS HIYAMA HIKARU.

WHY IS THAT?

EH?!

BUT, KASUGA. YOU SHOULDN'T GET INVOLVED WITH THAT GIRL!!

SHE SEEMS TO BE REBELLIOUS, AND THE AVERAGE STUDENT APPEARS TO BE AFRAID OF GETTING CLOSE TO HER!

FROM WHAT I'VE HEARD ABOUT HER LANGUAGE, CLOTHING, HAIR...

I HAVEN'T HEARD VERY MANY GOOD THINGS ABOUT HER.

HIKARU?!

EH?!

THAT GIRL ONLY SEEMS LIKE A DELINQUENT, BUT SHE ISN'T ACTUALLY ONE, RIGHT?!

DISCOS AND ARCADES, ETC, ETC...

WELL...

...DID SHE DEFINITELY DO SOMETHING BAD?

DEFINITELY!

K-KASUGA-KUN...

NO-O-O, NOT YET...

SOMEONE WITH THOSE KINDS OF RUMORS FLOATING AROUND THEM CAN'T BE A STRAIGHT PERSON.

BUT... THAT IS... UH...

BOTH: YOW!

SFX. <WHAM>

THERE'S NO NEED TO CALL HER A DELINQUENT!!

WELL THEN!

...

KASUGA-KUN...

SFX: <MUTTER>

OH! WE GOT IT! WE GOT IT, KASUGA! SO...

THAT GIRL REALLY HASN'T DONE ANYTHING THAT DEFINITELY LEADS TO DELINQUENCY!

LISTEN CLOSELY. YOU TOO, MATSUOKA-SENSEI!

THUD

BUT, ISN'T THAT SO?

仕事しよう

IN THAT CASE ...

IS IT OKAY FOR TEACHERS WHO ARE IN A POSITION TO GUIDE PEOPLE, TO JUDGE A PERSON SOLELY ON THE BASIS OF RUMORS?!!

...I FEEL SORRY FOR HER!!

HEH!

AYUKAWA... EH...?!

THAT'S ALL FOR TODAY, AYUKAWA.

RATTLE ooo

WH-WHY WAS AYUKAWA IN THE FACULTY OFFICE?!

COME ON... WE GOT THE POINT...

AH, SENSEI, WHERE WAS I?

WHY IN THE WORLD WAS SHE CALLED IN HERE...?

EXCUSE ME...!

RATTLE

EXCUSE ME!

PHEW

OH BOY, WE WERE GOING TO LECTURE HIM BUT I FEEL AS IF WE GOT IT INSTEAD, HUH, MATSUOKA-SENSEI?!

WAH HA HA!

AHH...

BANG

I DID SOME-THING PRETTY OUTRAGEOUS... I SLIPPED UP AND LOST MY COOL AGAIN!!

PROFESSOR KASUGA, THANK YOU FOR YOUR GREAT LECTURE!

本日の呼

松石浜

林野坂本

SIGN: <SUMMONED TODAY...> <FOUR SURNAMES LISTED>

YOUR BAG IS PRETTY LIGHT.

I'LL WALK YOU TO THE GATE!

SMILE

TO WAIT HERE FOR ME?

YOU TOOK THE TROUBLE...

IF YOU LEAVE YOUR BAG IN THE CLASSROOM...

IT MIGHT GET STOLEN!

HA HA HA

A GREAT, DISTINGUISHED TEACHER MADE THE FINE REMARK THAT THERE SEEM TO BE...

DELIN-QUENTS IN THIS SCHOOL.

AWW... I'M EMBARRASSED.

YOU'VE GOT COURAGE, KASUGA-KUN! I WAS AMAZED...

AYUKAWA... IS A NICE GIRL AFTER ALL.

BUT EVEN THOUGH IT WAS ONLY IN A DAYDREAM, HAVING THE GIRL I KISSED BE NEXT TO ME SOMEHOW MAKES ME FEEL SELF-CONSCIOUS!

BY THE WAY...

KISS, HMM...

I THINK I'VE KISSED 3 TIMES TODAY! MY FIRST KISS WAS WITH KOMATSU... THE SECOND ONE WAS WITH THAT GIRL HIKARU, EVEN THOUGH I DON'T KNOW FOR SURE IF I REALLY KISSED HER... AND LASTLY, AYUKAWA!!

BLEAH!

KASUGA-KUN, HAVE YOU EVER REALLY KISSED SOMEONE?

SFX: <THUMP!>

IF I SAID IT WAS YOU...

HORI CHIEMI!

AH! YOU'RE RIGHT!

WAH! WHAT AM I SAYING?!

BUT I DISTINCTLY REMEMBER THE ONE IN MY DREAM!

HMMPH

AHH... HAVE I OR HAVEN'T I...

HMM... SHALL I TRY AND GUESS? I BET IT'S A SINGER OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

...WOULD I BE SLAPPED AGAIN?!

YUP.

YOU SAW IT YESTERDAY?

IF I DARE TO REACH OUT MY HAND IT SEEMS I COULD TOUCH YOUR RED LIPS WHICH REST BEFORE MY EYES... IT'S THE DUSK THAT MAKES ME THINK LIKE THAT!

End of chapter 003

CHEEK
SORROW

EHH?!

A DISCO?!

SO, SHALL WE TRY GOING TONIGHT?

I'M NOT GOING!!

A-HEM

LISTEN! IN A PLACE CALLED A "DISCO" THEY HAVE A THING CALLED "CHEEK TIME".

AND AT THIS TIME <BWA-HA-HA> BODIES SLIDE CLOSE, AND INSIDE YOU FEEL BOTH DELIGHT AND SHAME AS THE NIGHT PASSES ON. YOU MAKE FRIENDS WITH CUTE GIRLS AND DO "XX" AND "XXX" THINGS WITH THEM. IT'S A PLACE THAT FEELS GOOD!!

THAT'S THE SAME THING!

A DISCO, UM... ISN'T A DISCO A PLACE WHERE YOU PICK UP GIRLS AND TAKE LIBERTIES WITH THEM?!

WHAT SORT OF WAY TO THINK IS THAT?!

IF ANYONE FOUND OUT THAT WE WENT, WE'D BE KICKED OUT OF SCHOOL ...

BESIDES, IN THIS SCHOOL WE'RE NOT EVEN ALLOWED TO GO TO A COFFEE SHOP, MUCH LESS A DISCO!

BECAUSE WE'RE STILL IN JUNIOR HIGH.

YOU'RE BEING TOO FRANK.

IS THAT ALL YOU CAN THINK OF?!

THERE! FEEL BETTER NOW?! BESIDES, NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY, THERE'S CHEEK TIME!! CHEEK TIME!!

AYUKAWA ...?!

DON'T WORRY! AYUKAWA AND OTHERS PROBABLY COME AND GO THERE ALL THE TIME, BUT THEY DON'T SEEM CONCERNED.

...WELL, MAYBE WE CAN JUST TAKE A QUICK PEEK.

GOOD! IT'S SETTLED.

RAPTURE

...AND HER PART-NER WOULD BE...

CHEEK TIME... HMM... CHEEK DANCING AND AYUKAWA SEEM LIKE A GOOD MATCH...

WHA...?! DESPITE YOUR LOOKS YOU'RE CONSIDERATE, AREN'T...

HUH?

COMPLIMENTARY DISCO TICKETS!

WHAT ARE THESE?

IT ISN'T MUCH, BUT...

"LADIES TICKET"?!

TICKET: DISCO MOEBIUS; LADIES FREE COMPLIMENTARY TICKET

.....

COMPLIMENTS OF KOMATSU

PAT

RIGHT. GIVE THEM TO YOUR YOUNGER SISTERS!

NO WAY AFTER ALL!!

SO HE INVITED ME IN HOPES OF HAVING MANAMI AND KURUMI COME TOO...! AND ON TOP OF THAT, TO CHEEK-DANCE WITH THEM!!

EXACTLY.

HEY! YOU'RE TELLING ME TO BRING ALONG MY SISTERS?

AS I RECALL, I THOUGHT I HEARD YOU SAY YOU'D DO ANYTHING FOR US AFTER YOU LOST US THE BASKET-BALL GAME...

NO WAY!!

ABSOLUTELY "NO WAY"?

MEN SHOULD ALWAYS KEEP THEIR PROMISES!!

SFX. <OOH!>

AH...?!

C-COME TO THINK OF IT!

SFX: <BO-O-ONG!>

CAN'T TAKE KURUMI AND MANAMI TO A DANGEROUS PLACE LIKE THAT!

THAT BASTARD!

RATTLE

SLAM

THEN, I'LL WAIT FOR YOU IN FRONT OF THE DISCO AT 7PM...!

MADOKA-SAAAN!!

H-HEY! WAIT, KOMATSU!

HIKARU, WHAT ARE YOU DOING TONIGHT? YOU WANNA GO?

'COURSE!

SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WAIT.

COME TO THINK OF IT, SHE'S ALWAYS WITH AYUKAWA...

AH! THAT'S THE GIRL I RAN INTO BEFORE IN THE HALLWAY...

BUT NOW THAT I SEE HER LIKE THIS, SHE'S PRETTY CUTE...

AHHH!

THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE SAYING SUCH THINGS!

EVEN THOUGH IT WAS AN ACCIDENT, I HOPE SHE'S NOT TELLING AYUKAWA ABOUT THE KISS.

I WAS ON THE CLEANUP TEAM.

YOU'RE LATE, BIG BROTHER

DINNER'S READY...

WELCOME BACK!

YEAH. I THINK SO. HE TOLD ME TO GIVE YOU HIS REGARDS.

WORK?

DAD SAID HE WON'T BE BACK FOR 2 OR 3 DAYS.

OH, YES.

UH... MANAMI? THE DIS...

HMM...

I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD GO TO THE DISCO AFTER ALL... MUCH LESS DO SUCH A THING AS CHEEK DANCE ...

THEN I'VE GOT TO LOOK AFTER THESE TWO.

I SEE...

KURUMI, YOU SHOULDN'T BE EATING WITHOUT US!

AH, DON'T DO THAT!

SNATCH

WHAT'S THIS?

SFX: <THUMP>

DISCO?

HEY HEY, MANAMI-CHAN! A DISCO TICKET... LOOK!

KURUMI-SAAAAAAN!

ZOUNDS! IT'S A TICKET TO A DISCO!

SFX: <STAMP> <ROMP>

HMMMPH

SO WHAT'S FOR FREE?

WHAT'S A "DISCO?"

YAYYY! BANZAAAI! FOR FREE! HOORAY!!

"DISCO 'MOEBIUS'. LADIES FREE COMPLIMENTARY TICKET."

Pop Pop Pop

LOOOOK! DON'T START AGAIN, YOU PEST!

HEY HEY! WHAAAT'S A "DISCO"? WHAAAT?!

LET'S GO WHEN WE'RE OLDER!

...WE'RE STILL IN JUNIOR HIGH.

WELL... I'D KINDA LIKE TO GO, TOO, BUT...

THE DISCO WON'T RUN AWAY.

YOU CAN EAT AS MUCH AS YOU WANT.

IT'S A PRETTY PLACE WITH LIGHTS THAT SPARKLE A LOT, AND YOU DANCE AND EAT.

THAT DIDN'T COME OUT RIGHT...

IT FEELS GOOD?

LISTEN! A DISCO IS A PLACE WITH ALCOHOL AND THE RHYTHM OF ROCK AND WHERE YOU MAKE FRIENDS. WHERE YOU FEEL GOOD...!

BRIGHT LIGHTS, SHINY, AND ALL YOU CAN EAT...!!

GULP

BIG BROTHER, YOU STINGY BUM!!

I'LL BUY YOU A TAKOYAKI NEXT TIME.

I WANNA GO! I WANNA GO!! I WANNA GO!!

I SAY NO, NO, NO-O-O-O!

BIG BROTHER! WE HAVE TROUBLE!!

SHE WENT OUTSIDE? BUT WHERE...

I HEARD THE DOOR OPEN AND WHEN I WENT TO SEE, KURUMI'S SHOES WERE GONE.

WHAT?! KURUMI'S GONE?!

BUT YOU NEED A TICKET TO GET IN, AND THE TICKET IS RIGHT HERE.

SHE... CAN'T HAVE GONE TO THE DISCO ...

IWANNAGO IWANNAGO IWANNAGO!

AH!

THIS IS TERRIBLE!

WHERE'S THE OTHER ONE?

SEE.

SFX: KYAAAA! <TUMBLE TUMBLE TUMBLE...>

SFX: <CLICK!>

THEY'RE LATE!

SWISH

I GUESS HE'S NOT COMING AFTER ALL.

.....

STARE

SFX: <CLICK!>

DID SOMEONE SEE US?

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

EH?! AH, THANKS.

MOEBIUS SYSTEM

WELCOME!

SFX. <ZuNZUN ZUZUN>

SFX. <ZuZUN ZuZUNZuN>

ANYWAY, LET'S LOOK FOR HER!

DO YOU THINK SHE'S HERE?!

WH-WHAT NOISE..?

SFX. <ZuZUN ZuZUNZuN>

OK!

MANAMI, YOU TRY THAT SIDE.

I'LL LOOK ON THIS SIDE.

YOU CAN USE THE "POWER"!

IF SOMEONE TRIES TO HARM YOU,

YES?

OH, MANAMI!

OKAY, GOTCHA!

OH, SORRY!

HEY, WATCH OUT, MAN!

BUT, A DISCO...

...IS AWESOME.

BUMP

AND FR- FRIGHTENING!

OO-OOH! D-DARLING!!

AH!

AH, NO.

DID YOU COME HERE ALONE?

IF SHE'S HERE, MAYBE...

HMM... THOUGH HE DOESN'T LOOK THE TYPE, HE'S HERE AT A DISCO?!

YOU KNOW... MADOKA-SAN! LOOK. OVER THERE...

I'M WITH SEMPAI *

THIS IS *AWESOME!!*

* OLDER STUDENT

SHE'S HERE AFTER ALL?

MUNCH MUNCH

AH!

SCAN SCAN

EH?! AH! NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I CAME HERE FOR.

SAYYY! WON'T YOU DANCE?!

CHOKE! CHOKE!

WHUMP WHUMP

LET'S GO HOME.

CAUGHT YOU! WELL, LET'S GO HOME. YOU'RE NOT RUNNING AWAY AGAIN!

C'MON, LET'S GO HOME NOW.

GULP

KURUMI!

SHHH

IT'S CHEEK TIME!

MURMUR

OH!

HEY!

WH-WHAT ...?!

HMMMMMM

THAT'S RIGHT! THIS IS THE CHANCE TO GET CLOSE TO DARLING!

OH, THAT LOOKS NICE!

PEEK

FLUFF

SWISH

EH?!

N-NO...

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO CHEEK DANCE?

WHAT!

WHA!

WHA...

SFX. <THUMP THUMP THUMP>

GLOM

KA

A

A

SQUEEZE

IT'S EASY. LOOK. YOU GO LIKE THIS...

GENTLY

I-I GIVE UP. OH, GOD...!

AAH! MY HEAD FEELS LIKE IT'S TURNING TO JELLY...

OHH! SH-SHE SMELLS GOOD. SORTA SWEET AND SOUR.

PEEK

WHAT IN THE WORLD DID I COME HERE FOR?!

CLATTER

AYUKAWA'S LOOKING THIS WAY... IT SHOULDN'T MATTER, BUT I KIND OF FEEL BAD.

AYUKAWA LOOKS LIKE SHE'S IN A VERY BAD MOOD...!

WELL...

PEEK

!

HEYA BABE... ARE YOU ALONE?

WANNA DANCE?!

YOU'RE CUTE. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

WHA...! WHAT'S THIS...?!!

OKAY.

SWISH

TAP

AYUKAWA...! W-WITH THAT CREEP?!!

THAT GOES THE SAME FOR ME.

CHEEK DANCING LIKE THIS IN FRONT OF AYUKAWA.

I HAVE NO RIGHT TO COMPLAIN ABOUT HER, BUT...

AHH. NO. THAT IS...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? AREN'T YOU IN JUNIOR HIGH?

WE'RE GOING HOME AFTER THIS ONE!

MUNCH MUNCH

ISN'T THIS PIZZA DELI-CIOUS?

End of Chapter 004

LAKESIDE RHAPSODY

SQUEAK

CLACK

SPRAY

SWISHHHHHH

"

SFX: <RATTLE!>

YOU WON'T GIVE BIRTH TO HEALTHY BABIES!!

IF YOU SMOKE CIGARETTES AT YOUR AGE,

COME TO THINK OF IT, I HAVEN'T SMOKED SINCE THAT DAY...

AH!

FUNNY... I'VE FIRMLY KEPT TO HIS WORD...

HEH!

KASUGA KYOUSUKE... WEIRD GUY...

...I NEVER LISTENED...

TILL NOW, TEACHERS AND OTHERS HAVE TOLD ME MUCH THE SAME THING, BUT...

WHAT A NICE DAY! I THINK I'LL GO TO THE PARK.

SWISH

VEN

SFX. <WHOOOOSH!>

WHAT'S THIS? IT'S ONLY THE THIRD STATION? I'VE GOT ANOTHER TWO HOURS. LOOKS LIKE I'M A BIT EARLY.

LET'S SEE... NAKAGAWA STREET...

W-WITH ME...?!

EHHHH?!! A D-DATE?!

EHHHH?!!

EH! W-WELL. SORTA,

BUT...

YES! ARE YOU FREE THIS SUNDAY?

FIDGET

ZIP

HEY! HEY! WHAT YA' LOOKIN' AT?! I'LL KICK YOUR ASS!!

STARE STARE

AH!

I'M SO HAPPY!!

ALL RIGHT! LUCKY!

...BUT IT WAS DECIDED WITHOUT ANY SAY-SO FROM ME...

I WAS ASTONISHED BECAUSE IT WAS SO UNEXPECTED...

BYE. I'LL BE WAITING IN FRONT OF NAKAGAWA STREET STATION AT ONE O'CLOCK ON SUNDAY!

BECAUSE ...

T A P

I DIDN'T FEEL BAD.

...THIS IS THE FIRST TIME A GIRL HAS ASKED ME OUT...!

SMILE

AH, JUST A MINUTE, HIKA...

SIGN: KEEP THE CITY BEAUTIFUL...

SFX: <LITTLE-BY-LITTLE>

TH-THAT'S ...

TURN

WEST EXIT/ ENTRANCE

SFX: <RATTLE>

I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE IT!!

WAIT A SEC!

RUN

SPLAT

KYAA!!

SQUISH

ARG, FORCED TO USE IT!!

THANK YOU, LADY.

...?! N-NOT AT ALL. YOU'RE WELCOME.

GOOD MORN-ING.

...

HI.

HUH?!

Blue berry

YOU THINK SO? IT SEEMS TO BE GETTING CLOUDY...

NICE DAY, ISN'T IT?

I'VE GOT TO S-SOMEHOW DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS AIR OF BAD FEELING THAT'S BEEN THERE SINCE THE DISCO...

AH! G-GOOD MORNING.

AH! THAT CLOUD!

C-COME TO THINK OF IT, THERE ARE SOME CLOUDS OUT. YEAH!

LET'S SEE ...

BUT SHE CAN'T GET TO EITHER ONE AND IS RAPIDLY GETTING LEFT BEHIND.

KURUMI IS A FOOD FREAK.

AND THE TWO ON THE RIGHT LOOK LIKE AN ICE CREAM AND A HAMBURGER ...

IT LOOKS SORTA LIKE MY SISTER KURUMI!

BUT IT'S NOT JUST YOUR YOUNGER SISTER. ALL GIRLS ARE FOOD FREAKS!

GIGGLE!

"A PERSON THAT GOES AFTER TWO RABBITS WON'T EVEN GET ONE."

WHAT DO YOU CALL THAT?! UH, AH...

THAT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A FACE. IT LOOKS MORE LIKE THE SOLE OF A FOOT.

...FOR SOME REASON, LOOKS LIKE ME.

AND THE CLOUD THAT'S CHASING IT...

HEY! THAT CLOUD ON THE RIGHT LOOKS LIKE YOU...

?

TH-THE SOLE OF A FOOT?!

HMM? WELL, RIGHT HERE!

AH

FRONT OF THE PARK. FRONT OF THE PARK...

BY THE WAY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

RATTLE

HEY, GREAT LOOKING CHICK!

JUST MY TYPE. ♥

GRRR

STARE STARE

STARE STARE

I'VE SURE DONE IT NOW!

IN THE END, I CAME ALONG WITH HER.

SOMEHOW, AYUKAWA LOOKS SEXY TODAY...

PEEK

HMPH

WHO'S THAT GUY WALKING WITH HER?

SHE LOOKS HOT.

IS IT BECAUSE SHE'S WEARING NORMAL CLOTHES? GEE. NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, SHE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT!

...THEN NO MATTER WHO LOOKS, THEY'LL GET THE IM-PRESSION OF AN OLDER SISTER AND YOUNGER BRO-THER. OH GOD.

A B-BOAT?

WHY DON'T WE GO FOR A RIDE IN THAT?

IF WE WALK TOGETHER LIKE THIS...

I USED TO COME HERE WHEN I WAS LITTLE TO RIDE THE BOATS.

WELL? PRETTY GOOD, HUH?

N-NO... NOT TODAY!

SAY, WOULD YOU LIKE TO ROW?

THE HARDEST PART ABOUT ROWING A BOAT IS TO MAKE IT GO STRAIGHT.

WAH!!

HEAVE!

WHOOPS, LOOK OUT.

SHE'S QUITE CHEERFUL TODAY. WHEN SHE'S AT SCHOOL, SHE SEEMS TO BE A DIFFERENT PERSON!

SORRY, SORRY.

HE HE HE ...

HEY! THAT'S BAD FOR THE HEART!

OOOH!

YOU'RE AFRAID OF THE WATER.

LET'S SEE...

HEH HEH HEH. IT'S EM-BARRASSING ...!

DON'T BE SO VAIN!

W-WELL!

YOU CAN'T SWIM!

NO... I'M NOT PARTICULARLY ... THAT IS ...

THAT'S PRETTY HARSH ...!

FUMIKI-CHAAAN! S-SOMEONE!

KYAAA!

SPLASH

I-IN A LAKE THIS SHALLOW HIS FEET MIGHT TOUCH THE BOTTOM?

NO! THE OARS WILL GET CAUGHT IN THE WEEDS OVER THERE.

BUT IF WE TAKE THE BOAT OVER...

IT GETS PRETTY DEEP UNDER THE BRIDGE.

SFX: IN-A-DITHER

SFX: SPLASH SPLASH

おおろろ

TH-THEN, SOMEBODY.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! HE'S GOING TO DROWN!!

H-HEY, W-WAIT!

I'LL GO!

AYUKAWA IS WATCHING SO I CAN'T USE THE POWER HERE!

HMM!

IT'S ALL RIGHT! THAT WAS A LIE.

TENSION!

BUT YOU CAN'T SWIM!

OH GOD!!

SPLASH

BUT THIS ISN'T A JOB FOR A GIRL!! AND SHE'S WATCHING ME...

Blueberry

SFX: STAND UP!

PHEW!

...I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED ...

DURING THAT TIME...

JUST ...

FUMIKI-CHAN!

HUFF!

I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING AT ALL, BUT...

...AYUKAWA WAS NICE, TOO.

WHISH

HEY, YOU'LL CATCH A COLD.

WHEN I REALIZED IT, THE CHILD'S MOTHER WAS THANKING ME AND...

ONE, THANK YOU!

HOW MANY LUMPS?

I WANT TO ASK WHY I WAS ABLE TO SWIM.

W-WELL ...

YET YOU SWAM PERFECTLY WELL.

WHAT WAS THAT? YOU SAID YOU COULDN'T SWIM,

SIP

ooo

WHAT? IS THERE SOMETHING ON MY FACE?

MAYBE THE ONLY WAY TO EXPLAIN IT IS TO SAY, "BECAUSE AYUKAWA WAS WATCHING."

HMMMMMM

SLURP SLURP SLURP

I CERTAINLY DON'T REMEMBER USING THE POWER.

...

?

GIGGLE

EHHH?!

PLANKTON.

D-DATE?!

K A A

BUT, BEING TOGETHER LIKE THIS MAKES IT SEEM LIKE A DATE!

AH HA HA!

WHAT? YOU CAN'T SEE THAT!

EH!
AH!

HIKARU...?

AHHH!!
TH-THAT'S
RIGHT.
THE DATE
WITH
HIKARU-
CHAN!

HUH?!

I-I
MEAN...
THAT...

A DATE?
...
WITH
HIKARU?!

AH,
YOUR
JACKET
...?!

BYE.

THAT'S RIGHT.
I HAVE TO
GO HOME
NOW!

SWISH

HMM!

AYUKAWA ...

WASH IT BEFORE YOU RETURN IT!!

AH!

...I'M THREE AND A QUARTER HOURS LATE!

SCAN SCAN

AND AS FOR THE DATE WITH HIKARU-CHAN...

TAP TAP

SIGN: ...TA STREET STATION

"...WON'T EVEN GET ONE!"

AH-CHOO! I CAUGHT A COLD...

"A PERSON THAT GOES AFTER TWO RABBITS..."

KYOUSUKE IS A JERK!!

April 1, 1984

A DISTANT LOVE

AAAAAH...

SIGH

Cafe

EXIT

YOU'RE JUST NOT YOUR USUAL SELF!

I NOTICE YOU'RE SIGHING A LOT.

FOR QUITE A WHILE NOW... WHAT'S WRONG?

MAYBE,

YOUR DATE DIDN'T SHOW UP OR SOMETHING...

I-IS THAT SO!?

YEAH...

WOW! MADOKA-SAN, YOUR INTUITION IS REALLY SHARP!

JUST A GUESS.

H-HOW DO YOU KNOW?!

THUMP

I CAN'T TELL YOU EVEN IF MY MOUTH WAS RIPPED OPEN.

SORRY, HIKARU...

YEAH, BECAUSE I WAS OUT THAT DAY WITH THE VERY GUY WHO STOOD YOU UP ON YOUR DATE...

mangaproject cjb net

...A PRETTY IRRESPONSIBLE GUY!!

THUD

IF HE DIDN'T FORGET, BUT STAYED WITH ME ON PURPOSE, THEN HE'S...

BUT THAT'S HIS FAULT! HOW CAN HE FORGET AN IMPORTANT THING LIKE THAT?

I'M QUICK AT RECOVERING!

IT WAS SILLY OF ME TO SINK THIS LOW.

SOMEHOW, I FEEL BETTER NOW THAT I'VE TALKED IT OVER WITH YOU!

IT'S OKAY ALREADY.

SMILE

THAT SOUNDS GOOD!

WELL...

DARLING?, HUH...?

THAT WILL BE 2600 YEN.

COME TO THINK OF IT, MAYBE HE HAD SOME IMPORTANT BUSINESS TO DO THAT DAY...

I'LL ASK DARLING TOMORROW!

WAHHH!
I SAID IT...

HIS NAME IS... KASUGA KYOUSUKE-SAMA!

IN FACT, WASN'T THAT THE FIRST THING YOU WANTED ME TO ASK?

SO WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO ASK ME HIS NAME?

HE'S PRETTY COOL!

...OH, HIM.

ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO!

OKAY!

I SEE. THEN KEEP AT IT, HIKARU. I'LL BE ROOTING FOR YOU!

UH, DO YOU HAVE A MINUTE?

CLAMOR

NOISE

EH?!

PERFECT TIMING. I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU, TOO.

TREMBLE!

SOMEHOW, I DON'T THINK THIS WILL BE VERY PLEASANT.

BUT MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I LET IT SLIP AT THE PARK THAT I HAD A DATE WITH HIKARU-CHAN?

SHE GLARED AT ME WITH A SCARY EXPRES-SION...

WHAT THE HECK ABOUT?

AYUKAWA WANTS TO TALK TO ME...?

NOBODY'S HERE.

GRIN

WH-WHAT'S WITH THAT GRIN?!

THUMP!

THE ROOF!? I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS!

AYUKAWA IS A DEL-INQUENT ...

WHUMP

DON'T GIVE ME EXCUSES!

WAAAAHH!

YOU FLIRTING BASTARD! HOW DARE YOU HU-MILIATE MY FRIEND HIKARU!!

C-CAN'T BE...

Y-YIPES! F-FORGIVE ME!

SC-SCARY...!

SFX: <SHIVER/>

I THOUGHT SO.

ABOUT HIKARU...

Y-YES?!!

BY THE WAY...

NO...! I'M ASHAMED OF MYSELF.

...AND ON THE STATION'S MESSAGE BOARD, IN HUMONGOUS LETTERS, WAS WRITTEN "JERK".

I MEAN, UH, I RUSHED OVER THERE LATER, BUT HIKARU-CHAN WAS ALREADY GONE.

TH-THERE MUST BE SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME TO FORGET SUCH AN IMPORTANT PROMISE.

I FEEL I DID A REALLY BAD THING TO HER...

NOT YET. I WAS THINKING I SHOULD GO DO THAT TODAY.

EH! NO...

BY ALL MEANS, THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE.

SO... YOU'VE APOLOGIZED TO HIKARU?

THAT GIRL...

SHE MIGHT APPEAR TO HAVE A STRONG SPIRIT, BUT SHE'S QUITE NAIVE!

SHE REALLY SEEMS TO LIKE YOU.

BUT, WELL, HIKARU'S GOT SOME TASTE IN GUYS.

WORRIED? SHE LIKES ME THAT MUCH?

I FEEL SORRY FOR HER. SHE THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T LIKE HER, AND SHE WAS WORRIED ALL THIS TIME.

BUT I CAN'T IGNORE IT BECAUSE HIKARU IS LIKE A LITTLE SISTER TO ME.

IT'S NOT MY BUSINESS TO BUTT IN,

DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!

SO, WHAT DID YOU WANT ME FOR?

ピタッ

SFX: <STOP SHORT!>

BYE. GOOD LUCK!

THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO SAY TO YOU.

...I-I THINK THAT I SHOULD APOLOGIZE ABOUT THE PARK!

SWISH

AND...

THANKS A LOT FOR THE JACKET,

AN APOLOGY FROM YOU!!

...I DON'T WANT...

LET ME TELL YOU THIS...

WHAAAT?!! IS THAT WHAT IT WAS?!

YOU WERE OUT HELPING WITH YOUR FATHER'S WORK?!

DOESN'T EVEN WANT AN APOLOGY... HMM...

AND IT'S NOT LIKE WE HAVE A PLEDGE FOR THE FUTURE...

WELL, SHE'S NOT MY GIRL-FRIEND OR ANYTHING...

THAT... I MEAN. THAT'S RIGHT, BUT...

AHHHHH...
I TOLD A LIE!

O-OH NO...
I HAVE TO
APOLOGIZE
TOO, FOR
WRITING
SUCH A
RUDE THING
ON THE
MESSAGE
BOARD...

I'M VERY
SORRY!!

YOU DIDN'T
DISLIKE ME,
THEN?

BUT, I'M
GLAD...

THERE ARE
SOME THINGS
I WANT TO TALK
ABOUT CON-
CERNING OUR
FUTURE...

THEN CAN
YOU COME
WITH ME
RIGHT AFTER
SCHOOL
TODAY,
PLEASE!

PURRRRR

N-NO WAY.

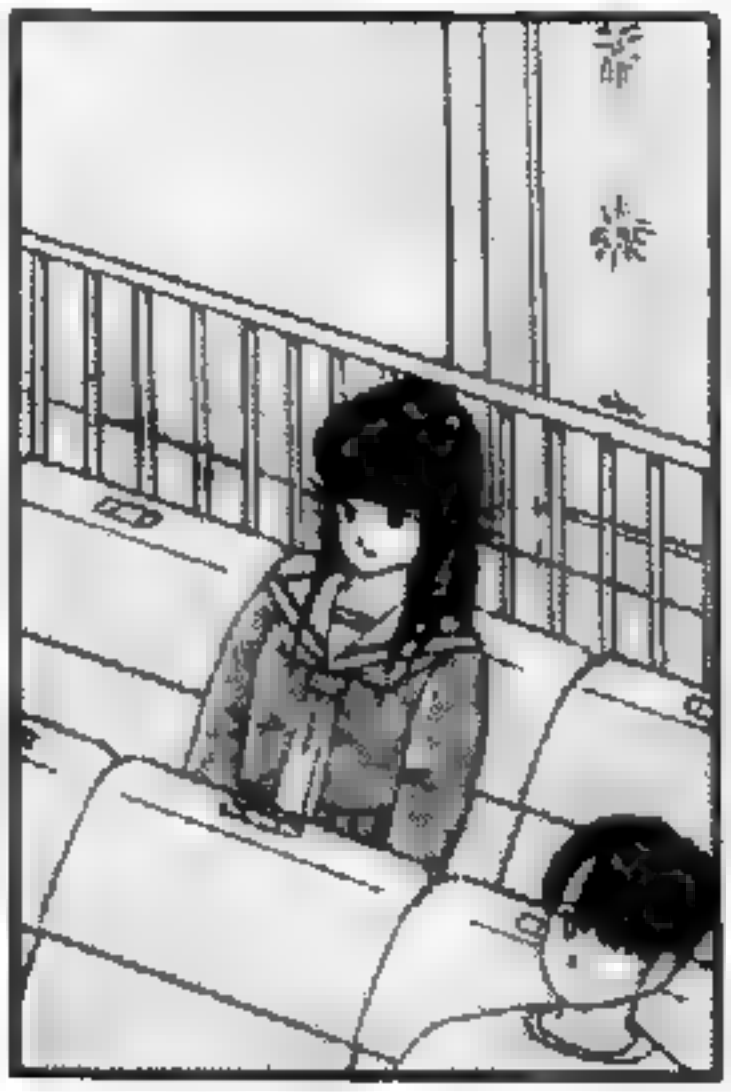
OH,
MADOKA-
SAN WILL
BE ALL
RIGHT!

SHE
ALWAYS
GOES HOME
WITH YOU.

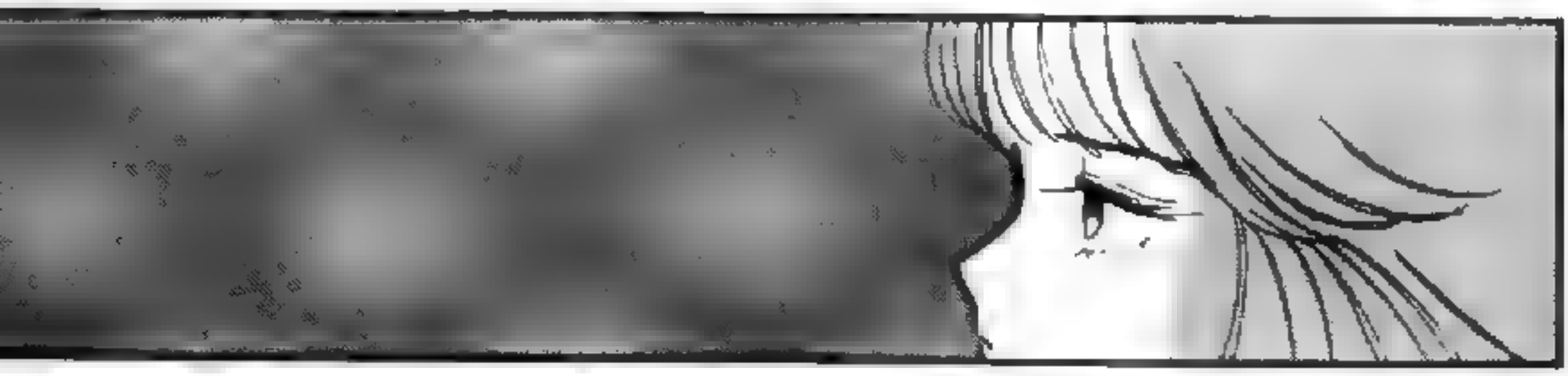
BUT..
IS IT ALL
RIGHT FOR
AYUKAWA
TO GO HOME
ALONE?

I SHOULD
HAVE
APOLOGIZED
SOONER!

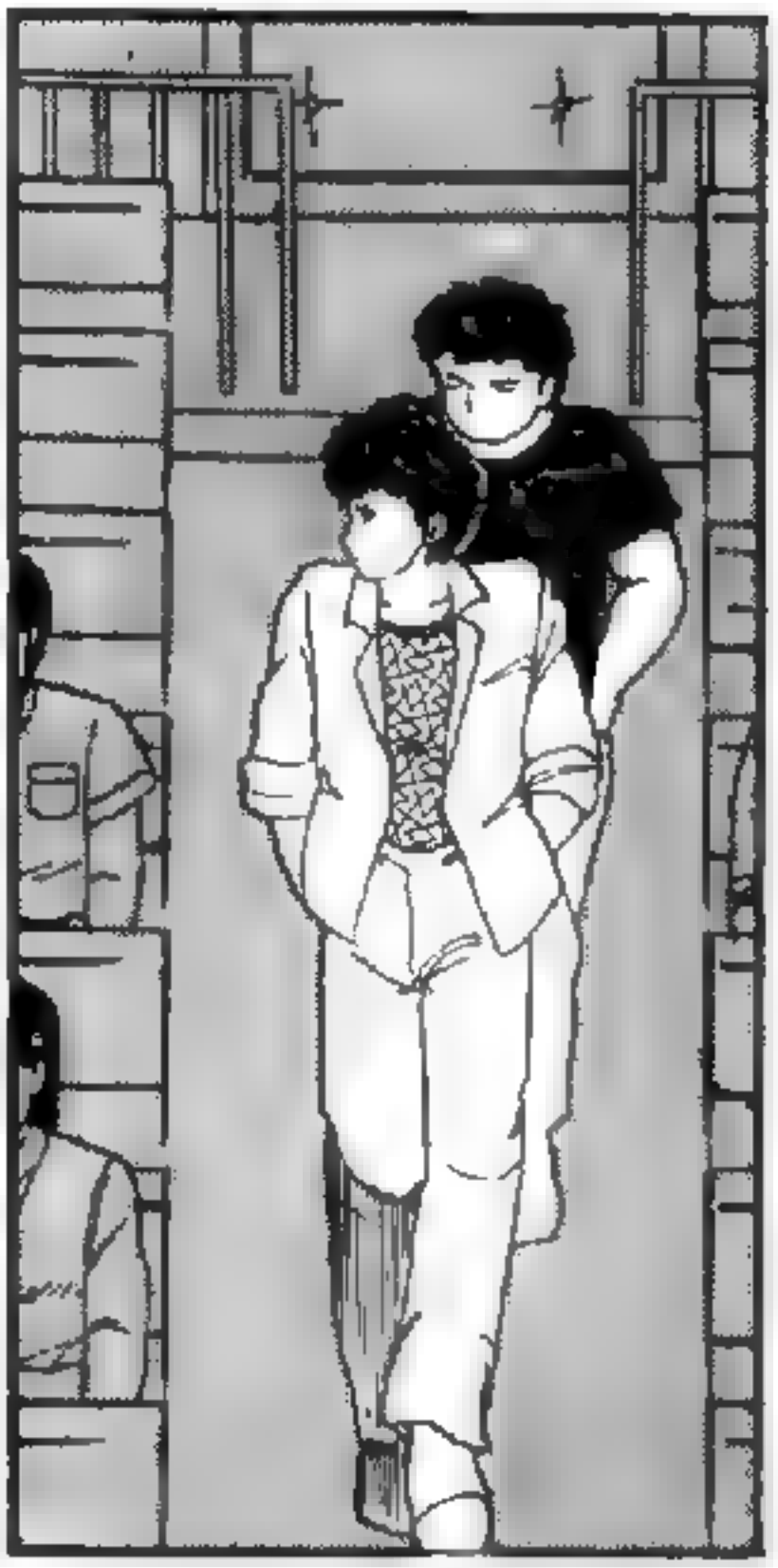
THAT SHE
SHOULD BE
SO HAPPY...



CONSTELLATION WIZARD
Adults 600
kids 300
2B-15B



OH!



LOOK! SHE'S DAZZLING.

ABOUT MADOKA-SAN...

SPRAY

SAY! KASUGA-SEMPAI...

AH! THAT SCARED ME. YOU CAN'T TELL WHAT SHE'S GOING TO BLURT OUT NEXT!

I THOUGHT SO!!

YEAH! SHE'S OKAY.

DON'T YOU THINK SHE'S WONDERFUL?

....

GIGGLE

BUT, I WONDER IF AYUKAWA WAS TOUGH EVEN WHEN SHE WAS LITTLE.

SHE'S LIKE A BIG SISTER TO ME!!

HIKARU-CHAN, IT SEEMS YOU LIKE AYUKAWA VERY MUCH.

AND THEN HE TOOK IT TO HIS HOUSE...

GIVE IT BACK!

YOU DIP-SHIT,

HEY YOU! HEY YOU!

WHEN I WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, A BULLY TOOK MY PENDANT.

A PENDANT?

ISN'T THIS PRETTY?

EVEN SO, MADOKA-SAN STOOD ALL NIGHT IN FRONT OF THAT HOUSE...

OUR RIKI-CHAN ISN'T ONE TO BE STEALING THINGS FROM PEOPLE. IT'S NOT HERE!

BUT THE BULLY'S MOTHER DIDN'T BELIEVE MADOKA-SAN...

MADOKA-SAN SAW ME CRYING AND WENT TO GET IT BACK.

HMM. SHE HAS A STRONG SPIRIT THAT RUNS DEEP ...

IT WAS MY FAULT. Y'GOT A LOT OF GUTS.

IN THE END, HE CAVED IN TO MADOKA-SAN'S PER-SISTENCE AND RETURNED THE PENDANT.

RIKI-CHAN!! IT'S TIME TO SLEEP ALREADY!

Y-YEAH.

HEY, SISTER!

YOU'RE A PRETTY WOMAN!

SFX: <BROAD GRIN>

YOU'RE IN MY WAY.

WE'LL TAKE YOU SOME-WHERE NICE!!

HEY, HEY... INSTEAD OF WATCHING THIS DULL MOVIE WOULDN'T YOU RATHER DO SOMETHING MORE FUN WITH US...?!

NO SMOKING

EHHH?! WHAT WAS THAAAAAT?!

YOUR...

I CAN'T SEE THE SCREEN VERY WELL.

STEP OUTSIDE!

END

Y-YOU BITCH! I SPEAK TO YOU NICELY AND YOU GET CARRIED AWAY.

...UGLY FACE IS IN THE WAY!!

SFX: <SLAP!>

I'LL TAKE YOU ON!

VERY FUNNY!! I'M IN A BAD MOOD!

SFX: <KA-BLAM>

THEN, LET'S BEGIIIIN!

BUT, I DIDN'T KNOW HIKARU-CHAN HAD SUCH A CUTE SIDE TO HER.

BEING CALLED THAT DOESN'T BOTHER ME SO MUCH ANY MORE!

DARLING, HUH...

LATER!

SEE YA, DARLING.

SFX: <STRIDE STRIDE>

VOICE. WAIT, YOU...

AYUKAWA...?! WHAT ARE THOSE GUYS...

SHIT, YOU SUKEBAN.

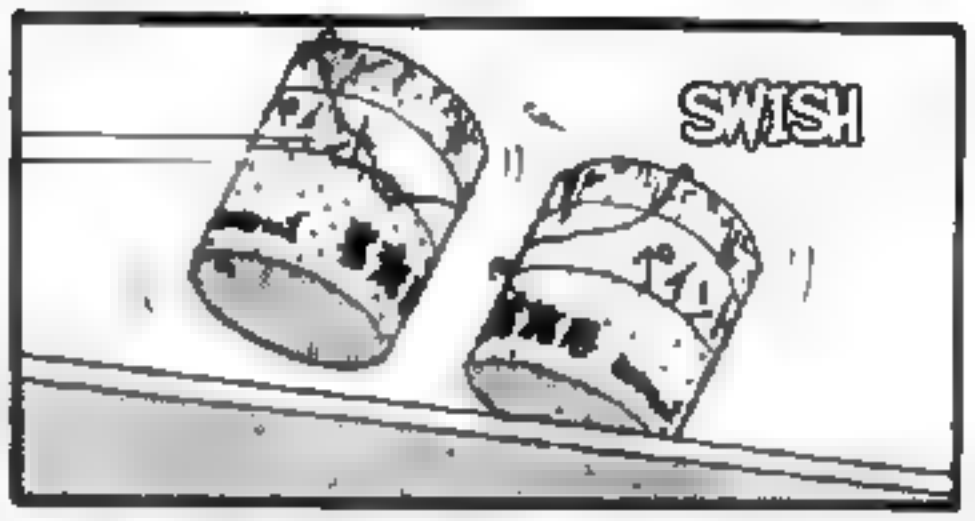
THE GAME'S NOT OVER YET!

BANG

NOTE: "SUKEBAN" = LEADER OF A GROUP OF JUVENILE DELINQUENT GIRLS.

SCAN
SCAN
SHE'S IN TROUBLE! O-O- O-KAY!

SPLOOSH!


SWISH

!?
AYU-KAWA!
FLOP
....

WAIT, DAMN YOU!

KASUGA-KUN...

WHAT IN THE WORLD WAS THIS ALL ABOUT?

I MEAN, THAT WAS SCARY!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

AH, WAIT A SEC!

BYE.

THEY SAID "WHY DON'T WE PLAY?" SO I JUST PLAYED WITH THEM FOR A BIT.

NOTHING SERIOUS.

WELL, A FIGHT WITH DELINQUENTS PROBABLY HAPPENS FREQUENTLY FOR AYUKAWA, BUT SHE SEEMS STRANGELY WILD TODAY...

WHAT?! HAVE YOU GIVEN HIKARU A PROPER APOLOGY YET?

AYUKAWA IS ACTING STRANGE TODAY...

NOTE: A "LIVE HOUSE" IS A PLACE THAT FEATURES LIVE MUSIC AND WHERE THE AUDIENCE CAN RUN AMUCK.

HIKARU-CHAN KNOWS A GOOD PLACE.

WE'RE GOING TO A "LIVE HOUSE" NEXT TIME TO-GETHER!

HER BEHAVIOR TOWARDS ME, IN SOME WAY, IS COLD!

SO,

WAS HIKARU HAPPY?

ANYWAY ...

WELL, LET'S SEE...

AYUKAWA, HAVE YOU BEEN TO A "LIVE HOUSE"?

16km

MAYBE AYUKAWA IS JEALOUS OF HIKARU-CHAN ...NAAH ...CAN'T BE, CAN IT?!

...DO HAVE FUN!

WHUMK

WAH!

DANGEROUS RUMORS

S-SORRY TO INTRUDE.

IT WAS NOTHING. I RAN INTO HER NEAR MY HOUSE ...

ペコッ

SFX: (HEAD BOB!)

...BUT, WHEN I ASKED HER IF SHE'D LIKE TO STOP BY, SHE ACTUALLY CAME WITH ME.

TODAY HIKARU-CHAN CAME OVER...

BUT... SOMEHOW, SHE DOESN'T SEEM AS SCARY AS THE LAST TIME.

SHHH!!

SHE'LL HEAR YOU!

OH, YEAH! SHE'S THAT BULLY!

YOU KNOW, THE DAY WE FIRST TRANSFERRED SCHOOLS, BEHIND THE GYM?

HEY HEY, MANAMI-CHAN, HAVEN'T WE SEEN HER SOMEPLACE BEFORE?

HMMMM!

THIS IS MY FIRST TIME IN A GUY'S BEDROOM.

HMM...

KURUMI, DON'T YOU STILL HAVE HOME-WORK?! SHOULDN'T YOU GO DO IT?!

I WAS THINKING OF DOING IT NOW!

FINALLY, YOU'VE BROUGHT A GIRL HOME WITH YOU, HUH?

CONGRATULA-TIONS, ONIICHAN. I THOUGHT YOU WERE A LATE BLOOMER AND I WAS WORRIED ...

OH, THANKS.

GRR...! THERE'S NO PRIVACY AROUND HERE!

HERE YOU GO.

PLEASE STAY FOR A WHILE.

MANAMI!!

OH, I'LL DO IT.

OH, THIS IS HOME-GROUND COFFEE.

HOW MUCH SUGAR?

BUT, I'M JEALOUS BECAUSE I'M A SINGLE CHILD ...

SHEESH, WITH THOSE TWO...

OH?

THUMP!

COME TO THINK OF IT, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I LET A GIRL IN MY ROOM!

SLIDE SLIDE

....

AH! MANAMI FORGOT TO BRING OUT THE CAKE!

...I BECOME AWARE THAT HIKARU-CHAN IS, AFTER ALL, A GIRL...

WHEN IT'S JUST TWO PEOPLE LIKE THIS...

I ONLY HAVE ROCK MUSIC, BUT ...

SH-SHALL WE LISTEN TO A TAPE?

ZIP!

TO THINK THAT SUCH A LITTLE THING LIKE THIS WOULD LATER TURN INTO SUCH AN AWFUL MATTER...

GOOD BYE! HOPE I WASN'T TOO MUCH OF A BOTHER!

WITH A GIRL YESTERDAY.

MY BROTHER WAS ON HIS BED,

SO, KAZUMI SAID SHE DREAMT OF SLEEPING IN HIS BED.

OH, YOU'RE KIDDING. THAT'S DIRTY...!

HOW, DARING!!

WITH HIKARU FROM CLASS-ROOM B.

K-KURUMI! IS THAT THE TRUTH?! WH-WHO WITH? A GIRL FROM THIS SCHOOL?

lock

SFX. <DEAD SILENCE>

BUT DON'T YOU THINK SHE'S CHANGED RECENTLY?

YEAH! SHE'S A LOT QUIETER NOW.

I'M SURE IT'S BE-CAUSE SHE'S GOT HERSELF A GUY

ISN'T HIKARU OF CLASSROOM B THAT PUNK GIRL?

YEAH, SHE LOOKS LIKE THE TYPE.

SAY, HAVE YOU HEARD!? ABOUT HIKARU, THE FIRST-YEAR GIRL?!

WHAAAAT?! RETURNING FROM AN OVERNIGHT STAY WITH KASUGA-KUN?!

SO THEN HIKARU WAS AT THE HOME OF KURUMI'S OLDER BROTHER...!

EH? IS THAT TRUE?!

SO, HIKARU FROM CLASSROOM B TOGETHER WITH KURUMI'S OLDER BROTHER...

EHHH! IN BED...!

YOU COULD HAVE CONFIDED IN ME, YOUR CLOSE FRIEND, COULDN'T YOU?!

WHAT'S THIS? KYOUSUKE, YOU'RE SO TIGHT-LIPPED.

PHHHT

BUT REALLY. DESPITE YOUR APPEARANCE, YOU'RE AN AMAZING GUY. I MEAN, GET-TING TO THIRD BASE...

EVERYONE IN SCHOOL IS TALKING ABOUT YOU AND THAT GIRL.

NOW NOW, DON'T TRY TO HIDE IT.

HEY, WHAT THE HECK DID YOU MEAN BY THAT?!

WH-WHAAAAT?!

AH!

WHISPER WHISPER

STARE STARE

EHHH?! I SHARED A BED ALL NIGHT WITH HIKARU-CHAN?!

U-UH...!

SO, HOW WAS IT!? HOW DID IT FEEL TO BECOME A MAN?

し～ん

CUT IT OUT! I DIDN'T GET TO THIRD BASE!

SFX: <DEAD SILENCE>

OO-OOPS! AYUKAWA WAS LISTENING TOO!!

BANG!

AAHHHH....!

C-CAN'T BE... IT'S ALL A MISUNDER-STANDING ...

UH-OH!

SLAM!

TAP! TAP! TAP!

WHO'S MARRIED?!!

I SEE. LOVE BE-TWEEN A MARRIED COUPLE IS SO TOUCHING!

HIKARU-CHAN ISN'T A DELINQUENT!

HIKARU? ISN'T SHE THAT DELIN-QUENT IN THE 1ST-YEAR CLASS?

SATURDAY NIGHT AYUKAWA WENT INTO THAT HOTEL WITH A MIDDLE-AGED MAN.

I HEARD THIS FROM A FRIEND... YOU KNOW THE HOTEL IN FRONT OF THE STATION?

IF YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT DELINQUENTS, I HEARD A RUMOR THAT EVEN AYUKAWA'S DOING WILD THINGS...

H-HOTEL..? TOGETHER WITH A MIDDLE-AGED MAN!?

REALLY, THOUGH! WHO WAS THE ONE WHO SPREAD AROUND A RUMOR LIKE THAT...?!

YEAH, YEAH. INVITE US TO THE WEDDING.

I'M TELLING YOU THERE'S NOTHING THERE BETWEEN US!

TH-THAT... CAN'T BE...

SPEAK OF THE DEVIL ...

TH—

THUMP!

HI, DARLING!!

IT DOESN'T REALLY BOTHER ME!

IT'S QUITE A NUISANCE, ISN'T IT.

HEY, HAVE YOU HEARD THE RUMOR ABOUT US...?

DOESN'T IT MAKE YOU MAD?

B-BUT THEY'RE SAYING TERRIBLE LIES LIKE THAT...

EH?!

SEMPAI... YOU DON'T LIKE ME, DO YOU?

I MEAN, BECAUSE OF THIS, OUR RELATIONSHIP HAS BECOME OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED BY EVERYONE AT SCHOOL.

HOW COULD I NOT LIKE A CUTE GIRL LIKE YOU!

NO WAY! HA HA.

I'M EVEN HAPPY ABOUT THIS.

J-JUST A MINUTE, HIKARU-CHAN! THIS ISN'T A *GOOD* IDEA.

REALLY?! I'M SO HAPPY!!

SFX: <HUG!>

OH! IN A PLACE LIKE THIS ...

I'M SO JEALOUS OF HIM!

BUT... HE HAS SUCH LUCK... SO POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS!

STRANGE! I WONDER IF IT'S JUST THAT I DON'T DISLIKE HER, BUT THAT I DON'T NECESSARILY LIKE HER EITHER...

?

AH, IT DOESN'T MATTER ANY MORE!

BUT CONSIDERING I GOT SO EXCITED IN MY ROOM, OVER JUST A BRIEF TOUCH OF OUR HANDS, NOW, EVEN THOUGH WE'RE THIS CLOSE TOGETHER, I DON'T FEEL MUCH OF ANY-THING...

BUT I CAN'T BE ASKING HER THAT.

I WONDER IF HIKARU-CHAN KNOWS ABOUT THAT?

BUT, AYUKAWA WENT INTO A HOTEL WITH A MIDDLE-AGED MAN...

THEN AYU-KAWA ...

COME TO THINK OF IT, I HAVE HEARD ABOUT THAT. I SUPPOSE IT'S A "LOVE HOTEL" OR SOMETHING...

GULP!

SFX: <GROW DIZZY>

AH! SEMPAI!

ADULT RELATIONS

I DIDN'T GET TO THIRD BASE!

DING DONG

I'LL PRETEND TO BE SICK AND GO SLEEP IN THE HEALTH ROOM.

SOMEHOW, I'M TOO TIRED TO GO TO AFTERNOON CLASS...

Health Room

WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM? HE SUDDENLY COLLAPSED ...

GOING INTO A HOTEL WITH A MIDDLE-AGED GUY...

BLINK

N-NO...

UHNNNN...

NO, AYUKAWA! DON'T DO IT!

SPRING!

OH, HE'S COMING TO.

AH!

RATTLE

HUH?

D-DARLING... YOU CARE ABOUT ME THAT MUCH ...

WH-WHAT WILL I DO?

EXCUSE ME!

W-WAIT!

SFX: <SLAM!>

I'M SO HAPPY!!

I'VE BEEN COMPLETELY MISUNDER-STOOD! JEEZ!

THAT IS GOING A BIT TOO FAR.

SHUT UP ALREADY!

FORTUNATE HUSBAND, THERE'S A VISITOR FOR YOO-OO-OU...

BOP

HI, KYOUSUKE. HOW'S YOUR WIFE DOING?

YOUR BIG BROTHER IS IN BIG TROUBLE, HUH? SUCH AN AWFUL RUMOR GOING ABOUT.

WHAT'S THIS? MANAMI ...

YOU FORGOT YOUR HANDKERCHIEF.

OLDER BROTHER.

THAT'S KURUMI'S FAULT. THEY WERE JUST SITTING ON THE BED, LIKE A CHAIR...

B-BUT I HEARD THAT HIKARU-CHAN AND KYOUSUKE WERE IN BED TOGETHER...

BUT ALL HIKARU-SAN DID WAS VISIT OUR HOUSE IN THE AFTERNOON.

OH, THAT THING, HMM? I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND HOW IT TURNED OUT LIKE THIS,

THEY WERE SITTING ON THE BED...

WHAT?!

B-BUT AS FOR KURUMI...

Wah-ha-ha-ha!

I-I KNEW SOMETHING WAS WRONG.

I DIDN'T THINK KASUGA WOULD DO A THING LIKE THAT EITHER...

OF COURSE NOT!

BUT, OH WELL ...SINCE THE M.S-UNDERSTANDING WAS CLEARED UP, IT'S OKAY!

WHEW!

OH, YEAH.

AND MORE THAN ANYTHING, I'M WORRIED ABOUT AYUKAWA'S RUMOR...

DID AYUKAWA HEAR THE CONVER-SATION JUST NOW?!

SO SHE STILL M.S-UNDER-STANDS.

IT SEEMS SHE WENT HOME.

QUIT TALKING SO LONG ON THE PHONE, KURUMIII.

SPRING!

THAT'S IT!

RING RING

RING

PLEASE ANSWER!!

RING

10 RINGS... 11...

I WANT YOU TO LISTEN WITHOUT A WORD TO WHAT I'M GOING TO SAY.

WHAT? CALLING ME AT THIS HOUR! WHAT DO YOU WANT?!

HELLO, AYUKAWA? THIS IS KASUGA KYOUSUKE!

HELLO?

DING

SHE CAME OVER, BUT ALL WE DID WAS DRINK TEA AND TALK. THAT RUMOR WAS BECAUSE OF MY YOUNGER SISTER KURUMI...

I'M BUSY RIGHT NOW...

THAT RUMOR AT SCHOOL ABOUT ME AND HIKARU-CHAN...

...IS ALL A LIE.

NOVA RECORD

U-UH... A-AYUKAWA, WERE YOU OUT ON THE TOWN SATURDAY NIGHT?!

YOU'RE A STRANGE GUY. YOU BOTHERED TO CALL ME JUST FOR THAT?

AT THE HEALTH ROOM I WAS HALF-ASLEEP AND I HUGGED HIKARU-CHAN AS YOU CAME IN...

WAS THERE ANYTHING WRONG WITH THAT?

WE WENT OUT TOGETHER FOR DINNER AT A HOTEL...

HUH? THAT DAY, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A LONG WHILE, I WAS INVITED OUT BY MY FATHER.

I CLEARED UP THE MISUNDER-STANDING AND FINALLY GOT TO TALK TO AYUKAWA...

PEOPLE'S RUMORS ARE SCARY!

STILL ...

THE SECRET PART-TIME JOB

AT LAST, GOLDEN WEEK STARTS TOMORROW!

AND SINCE OUR SCHOOL HAS CONSECUTIVE HOLIDAYS AT MIDTERM, IT'S BECOME A VACATION PERIOD...

高陵学園

SIGN: KOURYOU SECONDARY SCHOOL

YOU DON'T LOOK SO HAPPY.

WHAT'S WRONG?

IT'S LIKE A NICE, LITTLE VACATION, BUT...

SEMPAI, DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING PLANNED?

I'M GOING TO KARUIZAWA BY CAR WITH MY FAMILY!

YES, OF COURSE!!

YOU LOOK HAPPY, HIKARU-CHAN.

Edited by ZlleH, from #mangascans on Dalnet

MAKING A MISTAKE WHILE GOING WITH HIKARU-CHAN WOULD ALSO BE TERRIBLE.

THEN, DARLING, MAYBE I'LL TAKE YOU ALONG WITH ME TO KARUIZAWA.

...BUT INSTEAD, I REFUSED, SAYING I'D RATHER SPEND THE VACATION LAZING ABOUT AT HOME!

HA HA HA. TECHNICALLY, I WAS ALSO INVITED TO GO TO HOKKAIDO WITH MY FAMILY...

WHICH IS WHY I HAVE THE FEELING THAT I WON'T SEEM TO KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH MY SPARE TIME...

W-WELL... B-BUT...

HEY, WON'T YOU COME WITH ME?

AH!

YOO-HOO! MADOKA-SEMPAAAI!

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...I DON'T WANT AYUKAWA TO SEE ME LIKE THIS!!

I ALWAYS THINK...

YOU'RE IN SUCH A HURRY. WHAT'S WRONG?!

SO!

NOTHING SPECIAL...

"NOTHING SPECIAL"? WHAT IN THE WORLD HAS HAPPENED TO HER?

AYUKAWA HAS BEEN GOING HOME STRANGELY EARLY THESE PAST FEW DAYS...

FOR SOME REASON, THAT WORRIES ME!

SEE YOU, KASUGA-KUN.

THE BYRDS

WHAT AM I DOING IN HERE?
ROLL
A PAGE FROM MY DAZZLING YOUTH...
TOO BORING ...
BORING!
BLIP

EHHH?! REALLY?!
ALL RIGHT!!
BUT WE'LL BE IN GOLDEN WEEK THEN, SO WHY DON'T YOU COME ALONG?
I'M GOING TO HOKKAIDO TO WORK FOR JUST A WEEK ...
IT'S MY OLD MAN'S FAULT...

SO CRUEL ...

HE RAISED MY HOPES, THEN DASHED THEM, DAMMIT!

KYOUSUKE, YOU'RE THE OLDEST, SO GIVE A TICKET TO YOUR YOUNGER SISTERS!

I WAS ONLY ABLE TO GET TICKETS FOR THREE PEOPLE!!

CLAAAANG

HEY, KURUMI, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO WEAR?

SINCE I HEARD THEY HAVE PENGUINS IN HOKKAIDO, I'D BETTER HAVE A COAT OR SOMETHING, HUH?

Hokkaido's a Fine Place. Probably Damba

EXCEPT THAT...

I GET HUNGRY EVEN WHEN I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING!

OO-OOH. I'M HUNGRY. I HAVEN'T EATEN ANY-THING DECENT SINCE MORNING.

GRUMBLE

AAAAH! IF IT'S GOING TO BE LIKE THIS, I REALLY SHOULD HAVE GONE WITH HIKARU-CHAN TO KARUIZAWA!

THE GYROS

SIGN 1: KK KOMURA
SIGN 2: TOP BROKERAGE
SIGN 3: TOP BROKERAGE

THIS PLACE SHOULD HAVE FOOD.

HMMM?! "RESTAURANT AND PUB"! THIS WASN'T HERE THE LAST TIME I PASSED BY...

WOW! IT'S A NEW RESTAURANT! HMM. LOOKS LIKE "ABCB" ...

WHAT WILL IT BE?

LET'S SEE, WELL...

OHH, THIS RESTAURANT HAS A RATHER NICE FEEL TO IT.

AYUKAWA ...

KASUGA-KUN...?!

AH!

REALLY.

BUT, KASUGA-KUN, I WAS SURPRISED TO FIND YOU AROUND HERE.

DON'T TELL THE SCHOOL. BECAUSE WE'RE NOT ALLOWED TO WORK.

BUT ...

A PERSON I KNOW RUNS THIS PLACE, SO I FEEL AT EASE!

REALLY? YOU'RE WORKING HERE ALL THROUGH THE HOLI-DAY?

SO THIS IS WHY SHE WAS GOING HOME SO EARLY, HUH?

WHEW!

AND WE'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE, THIS IS A GOOD THING!

EVEN THOUGH IT WAS A COINCIDENCE,

CAN YOU WAIT A MINUTE?

YES.

AYUKAWA-KUUUN.

I HEAR THAT YOU'RE AYUKAWA-KUN'S CLASSMATE?

SMILE

WH-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

EH?!

I'M SAVED!

NAH HA HA HA!

PHEW, THAT'S GOOD. I WAS JUST SHORT-HANDED, AND I WAS AT A LOSS OF WHAT TO DO!

HUH!?

I'LL PAY YOU WELL.

HOW ABOUT IT? AT LEAST DURING JUST THE MIDDLE OF GOLDEN WEEK, COULD I ASK YOU ...!?

AS I HEAR IT, YOU LIVE AROUND HERE, TOO.

I'D LIKE YOU TO HELP OUT TOO, KASUGA-KUN!

W-WELL... I WONDER IF I SHOULD...

SO YOU'LL DO IT? OH, I'M SAVED!

EHH? RIGHT NOW!?

IF THAT'S SETTLED, THEN HERE YOU GO! YOUR EMPLOYEE SWEATSHIRT, DUSTER AND TRAY!

WAIT A MINUTE, NOW...

I KIND OF FEEL FORCED INTO THIS JOB.

SWISH

IS THE SIZE OKAY?

THE PLACE IS QUITE FULL.

AND HURRY.

I'LL LEAVE THE APRON RIGHT HERE.

THANK YOU.

?

SLAM

AND SO, IT STARTED OUT ON A STRANGE NOTE, AND THAT'S HOW I CAME TO BE WORKING HERE...

ALTHOUGH THIS JOB IS PRETTY TOUGH, MAYBE BECAUSE AYUKAWA'S IS HERE THAT I'M NOT BOTHERED AT ALL!

EEA!!!

SFX: <STOP SHORT!>

?

NOBODY KNOWS THAT I'M WORKING WITH AYUKAWA HERE.

GOOD MORNING!

IT'S JUST OUR SECRET!!

OF COURSE, IT'S A SECRET FROM HIKARU-CHAN, TOO.

IT'S LIKE I GOT A LITTLE CLOSER TO AYUKAWA'S MYSTERIOUS PRIVATE LIFE ...

THANK YOU.

NOOOOO... HA HA HA

AND BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, IT'S MAY 5TH... LAST DAY OF WORK!

IS THAT BECAUSE AYUKWAWA-KUN WAS HERE?

YEAH, BUT IT WAS A LOT OF FUN.

THANKS, KASUGA-KUN!

WAS IT HARD?

YOUR HELP SAVED ME.

ISN'T YOUR WIFE WAITING FOR YOU?

BUT MASTER, IS IT OKAY TO BE GOOF-ING OFF IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?

EH?!

RATTLE

BUT WHAT MASTER SAID IS TRUE...

WELL, I'LL BE GOING SO PLEASE LOCK UP THE PLACE, OKAY?

OKAY, OKAY. I CAN'T WIN WITH YOU, AYUKAWA-KUN.

C'MON, IT'S OKAY! IT'S ON THE HOUSE.

B-BUT, AFTER ALL I'M STILL IN JUNIOR HIGH.

KASUGA-KUN, ALL I'VE SEEN YOU DRINK IS JUICE.

I TOOK THIS JOB TO BE TOGETHER WITH AYUKAWA.

PROBABLY SO.

I-I'M NOT LIKE THAT!

OR ARE YOU SUCH A SERIOUS BOY?

EH?

EH!?

TH-THAT'S HARSH...!

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT'S CALLED?

OUCH!

YOU'RE DISGUST-ING!

OUCH!

BECAUSE... ALTHOUGH YOU PROMISED A DATE WITH HIKARU, YOU STOOD HER UP AND WENT RIDING IN A BOAT WITH ME AT THE PARK.

DO YOU HONESTLY LIKE HER? HIKARU?

AYUKAWA, DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S ENOUGH?

A FLIRT.

SH-SHE'S MAKING STRANGE DIGS AT ME TONIGHT...

GLUB GLUB

SORRY.

AH!

IS THAT SO?

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN YOU TALK AS MUCH AS THIS.

BUT...

HUH?

AH!

AYUKAWA... SHOULDN'T YOU BE GOING HOME?

FOR SOME REASON, I FEEL GOOD TONIGHT.

TOO BAD. WHAT'LL WE DO?

SURE ENOUGH, I'M NOT IN TIME FOR THE LAST ONE...

YUP! BUT THEY'LL BE BACK TO-MORROW AFTER-NOON.

ISN'T...EVERYONE AT YOUR HOUSE GONE ON A TRIP?

LET ME STAY FOR THE NIGHT?

WON'T YOU...

AH!... AYUKAWA ...

I WON'T TELL HIKARU.

HUH?

A-AYUKAWA ...

TOOT-TOOOOT

SHE'S ASLEEP ...

スー

SFX: <LIGHT BREATHING>

UH-OH!

ARG!

H-HIKARU-CHAN!

MADOKA-SAAAN!!

YOO-HOOOO, SEMPAAAI,

DID YOU JUST FINISH? WITH WORK?

YOU MUST BE EXHAUSTED!

YEAH. I HEARD FROM MADOKA-SAN OVER THE PHONE THAT YOU WERE WORKING WITH HER.

Y-YOU KNEW?

WHAT!?

SEE YOU LATER AT SCHOOL, SEMPAI!!

I'LL TAKE HER HOME.

OH? SHE GOT TIRED AND FELL ASLEEP?

WHAT IN THE WORLD WAS I GETTING ALL HAPPY ABOUT THEN?

WH-WHAT!?

I THOUGHT THE JOB WAS ONLY OUR SECRET...

SFX: <WHOOOSH>

AYUKAWA... WHAT DID SHE MEAN BY IT...!?

WON'T YOU... LET ME STAY FOR THE NIGHT?

BUT THOSE WORDS WEIGH ON MY MIND...

IS IT SIMPLY BECAUSE SHE WAS DRUNK?

OR...?

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